# The Literary Digest

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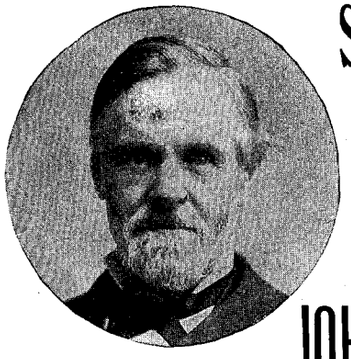

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*New York Tribune:* "The liquor traffic is the greatest clog on the civilization of the 19th century. It lies at the center of all political and social mischief; it paralyzes energies in every direction, it neutralizes educational agencies, it silences the voice of religion, it baffles penal reform, it obstructs political reform."

GLADSTONE, in a speech in the House of Commons in May, 1881: This traffic has wrought more harm "than the three great historic scourges, war, famine, and pestilence, combined."

*London Times:* "We must somehow end this evil or it will end us."

DR. WILLARD PARKER, one of the greatest physicians New York has known, in his introduction to Richardson's "Ten Lectures on Alcohol": Alcohol is responsible for 35 per cent. of all lunacy, 35 per cent. of idiocy, 75 to 90 per cent. of pauperism, and 10 per cent. of deaths.

The total number of deaths in the United States, on the basis of 18 to 1,000, and the population 75,000,000, is 1,350,000 per year, and 10 per cent. of these deaths is 135,000. During the four years of our great Civil War, the number of Northern soldiers killed in battle was 58,000; add an equal number for the Southern soldiers killed, and we have the total of 116,000 killed in battle, in the four years of one of the most terrible wars the world has known: that is, *19,000 fewer than are killed every year in this country by the liquor traffic, according to the judgment of Dr. Willard Parker.*

CHIEF JUSTICE NOAH DAVIS, in *The Homiletic Review*, January, 1885: "Eighty per cent. of all crime is due to intoxicants"; and the late Lord Chief Justice Coleridge, of England: "If we could make England sober we would shut up nine tenths of her prisons."

DEAN (late Canon) FARRAR: "Important as great questions in English politics may be, such as the franchise and the land laws, they are matters absolutely infinitesimal compared with the urgency of the necessity of controlling and limiting with a strong hand this drink question." This is no truer of England than America.

Those who fought slavery down and out are chiefest among America's great men and women of the last generation—Garrison, Phillips, Mrs. Stowe, Sumner, Beecher, Seward, Greeley, Lincoln.

Where are the young men and women of this generation who have in them the necessary courage, self-reliance, independence, sufficient of the heroic element to fight down and out the monster evil of all ages—the liquor traffic?

It will yet appear that to stand for Prohibition is a glory beyond which there is nothing superior.

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# The Literary Digest

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## TOPICS OF THE DAY.

### JUDGE McKENNA AS SUPREME COURT JUSTICE.

PRESIDENT McKINLEY has sent to the Senate the nomination of Attorney-General McKenna for Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States, to fill the vacancy occasioned by the retirement of Justice Field.

The exceptional nature of the opposition to this appointment has become a matter of public comment. A number of members of the legal profession on the Pacific coast, including several judges, have made open protest against the appointment on the plain ground of incompetency. The protest from Oregon says, in so many words, while disavowing any intention to question the honesty or character of Judge McKenna, "we believe that Judge McKenna is deficient in the essentials of legal learning, natural ability, and judicial aptitude, for the great office of Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States."

A number of important Republican papers join with the editorial critics of the opposition and of the independent press in opposing the confirmation of this appointment. The judiciary committee of the Senate, before whom the nomination comes, postponed action upon it until after the holiday recess. We quote below several editorials dealing with Mr. McKenna's record and his elevation to the Supreme Bench by the President.

**The Protest from Oregon.**—"Speaking of the protest from Oregon against the appointment of McKenna to the Supreme Bench, the Boston *Transcript* asks:

"'Is it honest and genuine? Can these gentlemen of the far Northwest demonstrate that Judge McKenna does not answer the requirements to a reasonable degree? If he does not, then their protest is suspiciously late. If he is not competent to sit on the Supreme Bench, he is not competent to be the legal adviser of the Administration, and the objections should have been urged when his appointment to that responsible position was under advisement?'

"There is a great difference. A seat on the Supreme Bench is a seat for life. Not so with the appointment to the office of Attorney-General. It will terminate with the present Administration, if not sooner. Moreover, it is a position of far inferior importance; for the Supreme Court, in nearly all important matters, interprets and gives permanent direction to the laws and policy of the country. To the question whether the effort was honest and genuine, the only answer necessary is found in the protest itself. It was said that a seat on the Supreme Bench 'ought to be held only by one who in learning, intellectual ability, and determined character has shown himself to be among the few most eminent of the legal profession, and capable of executing the great trust placed upon him, and of maintaining the character for ability and independence which has made the Supreme Court of the United States one of the first, if not the very first, of the tribunals of the world.'

"Is not that a perfectly sound contention? Who will question it? Well, that was the sole basis of the protest from Oregon. It was the expression of an opinion widely entertained, that McKenna's talents and acquirements are not equal to the position; but politicians and Senators who are suitors for favors at the hands of the President, and others who lack the habit of plain speech and feel that protest would do no good, think prudence requires silence."—*The Oregonian (Rep.), Portland.*

**Reasons for Investigation.**—"This appointment has been foreshadowed for some time. The custom of the Senate to confirm immediately the appointment of a cabinet officer when transferred to some other position has been, in this case, suspended, and the nomination goes to the judiciary committee with the statement that it will not be reported back until after the holiday recess. This, it is said in explanation, is because nominations to the Supreme Bench need more careful investigation than do others.

"There is good reason in this case for the suspension and for unusual investigation. There are, in fact, two good reasons. The first is the remarkable course of the nominee as Attorney-General in his official treatment of the notorious section 22 of the Dingley act. We have shown heretofore how, within a month, he completely reversed himself in his official interpretation of this provision. On August 11 he approved of the opinion of his subordinate that the act covered and subjected to the additional ten-per-cent. duty $90,000 worth of diamonds imported from Europe through Canada; and, a month later, September 21, he held that the act did not apply to goods so imported. . . . . .

"Another reason, secondary, and important only as it confirms the first, is the protest sent to the President from the Pacific coast against the nomination of Mr. McKenna. Whatever may be the personal motives inspiring it, whether, as Mr. McKenna says, it is because of unpleasant personal relations with the protesters or, as is intimated, because he is a Roman Catholic, and the attack is inspired by the A. P. A., it is remarkable in the character of the men making it. The protest is signed by Judge Gilbert, of the United States Circuit Court of Appeals, and Judge Bellinger, of the district court, the former a member of the bench of that court with Mr. McKenna when the latter was appointed to the cabinet, together with judges of the state courts of the coast and a large number of attorneys. . . . . .

"The compulsion of duty must have been very strong to induce his associates on the bench to violate the canons of judicial courtesy. But Mr. McKenna, in the section 22 case, has furnished the strongest corroboration of their judgment of his qualifications. It showed his lack of 'decision of character,' it revealed a lack of clearness of mind, and it betrayed a willingness to bend the judicial function to partizan necessities that unfitted him for the position of law adviser, to say nothing of a judicial place. We had, in the income-tax case, one instance of this pliability of a justice of that court, and he should not be reinforced by another equally

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[illegible]king in decision of character. Of his confirmation, however, there seems to be little doubt. The popular respect for that bench will not be heightened by the accession of Mr. McKenna."—*The Globe (Nat. Dem.), St. Paul.*

**Democratic Opposition.**—"The able Democratic editors who are opposing the confirmation of the appointment of Attorney-General McKenna as Associate Justice of the Supreme Court seem to forget that Grover Cleveland, when President, selected a comparatively unknown lawyer for the position of Chief Justice, and that Melville W. Fuller is still occupying the high position to which he was then appointed. Nobody ever suspected Justice Fuller of the possession of the profound legal ability and deep learning that the Democrats are now requiring of Mr. McKenna. All this opposition is based, of course, upon prejudice and upon the protest which came from the Oregon bar, and which was doubtless inspired very largely by jealousy. President McKinley has sent Judge McKenna's name to the Senate and will insist upon his confirmation. That ought to be accepted as evidence of his fitness for the place. Mr. McKinley has made few if any mistakes in his appointments thus far."—*The Leader (Rep.), Cleveland.*

**A Specific Attack.**—"The attack upon Mr. McKenna is not lacking in specific statements. It is charged that 'he is not, either by natural gifts, acquired learning, or decision of character, qualified for any judicial place of importance, much less for the highest honors of the land.' Before his appointment to the United States circuit bench in California, his legal work 'was confined to his efforts as a practitioner in the little town of Suisun, . . . he never had a case in any of the federal courts, and not more than one or two, if any, in the supreme court of California.' While on the circuit bench [five years] Mr. McKenna is charged with unusual inactivity. The protest says that during the last year of his service, he had 'three jury trials and decided six cases and twenty-seven demurrers and motions. Thirty-five demurrers and motions were submitted, of which eight were left undecided. On his retirement, he turned back to be retried thirty-one cases, demurrers, and motions.' . . . . . .

"If *The Argonaut*, published in San Francisco, where Mr. McKenna is best known and where he has held court, has no views on this question of competency, people thousands of miles away may well hesitate to pass judgment in the matter. Yet the fact remains that it is a very curious case. The 'strange silence' of which *The Argonaut* speaks is extraordinary. One would suppose that if Mr. McKenna were manifestly fit for the highest court in the land, such unusual charges as have been preferred against him would at once arouse an anti-protest from those who know his worth. The mystery involved is not lessened by the fact that A. P. A. influences are at work against Mr. McKenna because he is a Roman Catholic, for an organization so decrepit and so low in public estimation could hardly have created the remarkable signed protest against his nomination and have kept closed the mouths of fair-minded lawyers in California and Oregon who realized and appreciated Mr. McKenna's fitness for the great honor the President has bestowed upon him."—*The Republican (Ind.), Springfield.*

**May Laugh at His Detractors.**—"In all respects it [the appointment] is admirable. The new justice comes from the same State that gave his distinguished predecessor to the bench. He is a thoroughly equipped lawyer, well trained by long experience for the highest judicial station in the land.

"The President thus sharply rebukes the impudence of the Oregon judges and lawyers who petitioned against Judge McKenna's appointment. The petition was an unheard-of discourtesy, a piece of contemptible intermeddling that has made more friends than enemies for the Attorney-General. The charges—if charges they could be called—were general in their nature and unsupported even by the appearance of facts. They were at best merely the expression of the opinion of the signers, and it has turned out since that they arose from Judge McKenna's refusal to hold court in Portland while he was United States circuit judge. The appointment should be confirmed. In the mean time Mr. McKenna can afford to laugh at his detractors."—*The Times-Herald (McKin. Ind.), Chicago.*

**Betrayal of Trust.**—"No such protest has ever been filed against any other nominee for the bench of the Supreme Court.

"But Mr. McKenna is equally unfit for this place by reason of his affiliations and his actions as a lawyer and a judge. He has been the tool of corporations and the pet of plutocrats. His advancement has been due entirely to the favor of Stanford, Huntington, and other multi-millionaires of his section. Every important decision that he made in corporation cases was clearly in the interests of his former clients. He represents in a peculiar degree that perversion of the judicial power to the service of plutocracy against which 6,500,000 voters protested in the Presidential election.

"Even the Republican leaders said after that election that something must be done to remove the just causes of discontent and even of anger as manifested in the surprising popular vote. But instead of this nearly everything that the party in power has done has been calculated to continue and to aggravate this discontent.

"The appointment of McKenna, a former corporation lawyer and a plutocrat's judge, to enforce the anti-trust and anti-monopoly laws as Attorney-General was an affront to popular sentiment. To confirm him in a seat on the bench of the Supreme Court would be an infamous betrayal of the people's trust.

"The nomination of Mr. McKenna should be rejected."—*The World (Ind. Dem.), New York.*

**Ability and Fidelity.**—"In appointing Attorney-General McKenna to the place on the Supreme Court Bench vacated by Justice Field, the President has the satisfaction of honoring a member of his official family whose management of the legal business of the Government since March 4 has abundantly confirmed his reputation for ability and fidelity. Especially in his conduct of the difficult negotiations which resulted in the settlement of the Union Pacific controversy the Attorney-General evinced a high degree of professional skill and much practical sagacity, while the general administration of his department has been efficient and satisfactory. The President made no mistake in transferring Judge McKenna from the circuit bench to the cabinet, and it may fairly be assumed that, with a more thorough knowledge of his character and capacity than he then possessed, he has made no mistake in nominating him to the highest federal tribunal. Judge McKenna is in the prime of his mature powers, with a reasonable expectation of long and useful service in the great office for which he has been designated."—*The Tribune (Rep.), New York.*

"Cabinet appointment is for four years only; a Supreme Court appointment is for life. The President chose Judge McKenna for one place, and now chooses him for the other because he likes the man. Doubtless the man is likable, but the lawyer is not admirable. Men responsible for filling high public place should not indulge their personal likings to excess."—*The Commercial Advertiser (Rep.), New York.*

## EMPEROR WILLIAM THROUGH AMERICAN EYES.

AMERICAN newspapers take a lively interest in the vigorous foreign policy to which Emperor William is committing the German Empire. The important features of this policy have been set forth, from time to time, in the Foreign department of THE LITERARY DIGEST. There has been a disposition to make fun of him, and to treat his public statements as containing more pretension than serious purpose. But events connected with the inauguration of a "forward policy" in China, as revealed by the German occupation of Port Kiao-Chou, and the ceremonies which marked the departure of Prince Henry of Prussia on war-ships bound for China, strike the public imagination and induce renewed study by American editors of the Emperor's plans and their effect on the world at large. Reference to the called "Haitian incident" constitutes a small part of a voluminous discussion.

**Rumors of War.**—"Emperor William of Germany is probably not responsible for all the wild rumors set afloat regarding his intentions, tho it must be admitted they would receive no credence but for his own wild and threatening talk. It is incredible, however, that even the War Lord of Germany would contemplate warfare with Christendom. Among the various projects with

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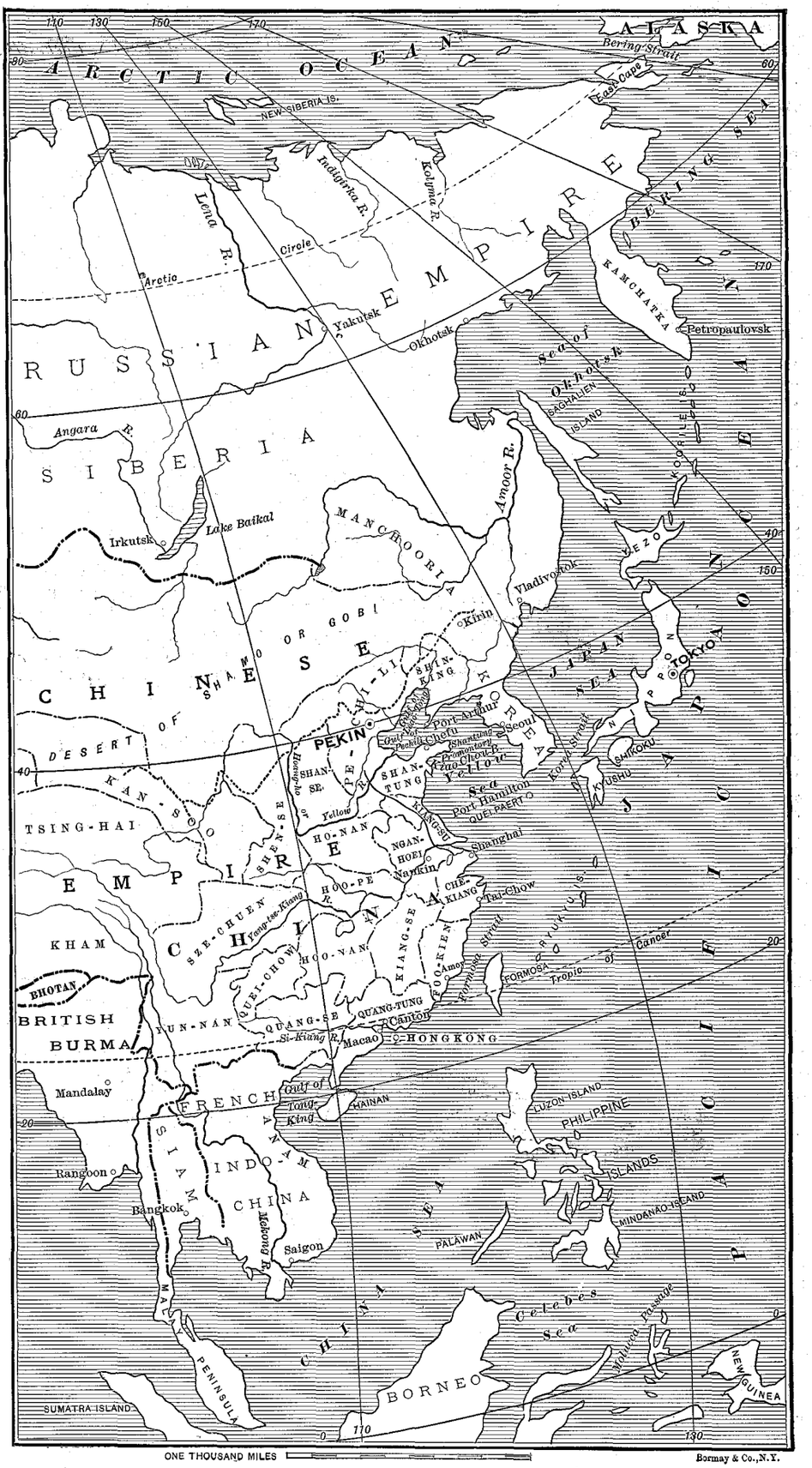
which he is now credited is war with China, involving Great Britain and Russia, the seizure of Norway and Sweden to settle a family dispute, the destruction of the Monroe doctrine resulting from the conquest of Argentina, the seizure of Hawaii, and war with the United States in conjunction with Spain. The Haitian affair, it is explained, was only a 'feeler' to test the temper of the United States. As we did not show fight, it is assumed that we need much greater provocation, and that, the war having been inaugurated, this country will be at the mercy of the navies of Spain and Germany.

"It is explained that Prince Henry's fleet has been sent to the Pacific to inaugurate hostilities against this country, and that his first move will be to seize Samoa and Hawaii. For this he might properly receive the thanks of the American nation, as it would save us from the setting up of a rotten borough system far out in the Pacific Ocean. But the purpose of the seizure is to inaugurate a war, which is to end in the conquest of America by the German nation, and to this end Argentina has been settled by Germans, acting as the agents of the Kaiser, who has also tens of thousands of emissaries in this country.

"No wonder the Emperor wants to materially strengthen his navy. He will need all the ships his most extravagant estimates call for if he undertakes even a small portion of this plan of conquest. He can begin with the Chinese with comparative safety, for by making reasonable concessions to Great Britain and Russia he will probably be allowed to do pretty much as he pleases in China, but if he knows when he is well off he will let the continent of America alone. The rumors would be considered wholly idle and unworthy even of mention were it not for the erratic character of the Kaiser, who seems to be capable of concocting such visionary ideas, and may be mad enough some day to undertake their realization."—*The Ledger (Ind. Rep.), Philadelphia.*

**Ex-Minster Denby on the Partition of China.**—"At the termination of the war in 1895 it was apprehended that the seizure of Chinese territory by Japan was the prelude to the dismemberment of China. This apprehension became certainty to all observers of China's supine acceptance of her humiliation, for no statesman rose to grapple with the difficulties of his country; no popular outcry denounced the corruption and inefficiency which had led to her downfall. The action of Germany, however, has brought things to a crisis sooner than was foreseen. There is no uncertainty now about the future. Germany is at Kiao-Chou, and will remain there. Manchuria was already in Russian hands, and Port Arthur and the Liao Tung Peninsula fall to her only a little sooner than expected.

"England will probably seize Chusan, an island near Shanghai, suitably located to control the trade of that great market, an almost English city, while France may take Hainan and territory

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on the mainland adjoining Tonking. The now inevitable failure to pay the war indemnity will leave Japan in possession of Wei-Hai-Wei [on Shang-tung promontory].

"To the well-informed at Peking it was known in 1895 that Russia had promised the reigning family in China to maintain them on the throne and to preserve their empire. The most ominous feature of the present crisis for China is that this engagement seems to have been repudiated, and Germany must have acted with the assured consent of Russia and France. England will not interfere in the program of these three powers. In China she has receded before French and Russian aggression from every stand that the English press has asserted that she would take. It has always been China, never the aggressor, that has been called to indemnify when some fresh encroachment has seemed to menace British interests, and in every case Great Britain has been content to accept some grant to herself to balance the grants to others. The effect of this movement on China is not difficult to state. Her autonomy is gravely menaced, perhaps lost forever.

"It is not too late, however, to do something for the United States, whose trade interests there are second to those of England only. China is our natural market. The Chinese tariff treats all alike, and China is the only great field where the American manufacturers meet all rivals on equal terms. The treaties of the United States with China provide that American goods shall not be discriminated against and that no monopoly shall be granted to any one. With the seizure of territory these treaties fall to the ground, and spheres of influence hostile to American commerce spring into existence before the European aggressors have time to raise the cry of vested interests.

"Let the American Government demand that whoever may become the masters of the soil, equality of tariff shall be maintained and the American manufacturer shall not bear the burden of a tax imposed by his competitors.

"Looked at from a broader view the action of the powers can not but cause regret to every friend of China in America. It includes among its possible consequences the division of China, the fall of the Manchu dynasty, the introduction of European quarrels into an Asiatic state always friendly to us. During the past three years the great powers have had an opportunity for the exercise of a beneficent and civilizing influence in China, which they have thrown away. By joining together and inducing the imperial Government, which was favorable to foreign ideas after the Japanese war, to reform its fiscal system and its internal tariff and to throw open the development of its resources to the enterprise and capital of the West, they could have created a great market and a vast field of industry impartially open to all. They could have raised up and reformed an ancient government and led a great people undivided into the path of progress. The American merchant and the American missionary would have asked no more than this.

"Selfishness, however, has carried the day. A field which could not be monopolized by commercial methods is being seized by force of arms, and instead of the spectacle of China being lifted up, civilized, and developed by the wholesome process of peaceful competition, we are to see her ports turned into mutually hostile fortresses and her provinces become the camping-ground of alien soldiery."—*Charles Denby, Jr., ex-United States Minister to China, in The Herald, New York.*

**May Not be a Laughing Matter.**—"They are laughing immoderately in Europe about the speeches of Emperor William and Prince Henry at Kiel. But it has begun to dawn on some of the newspapers that the adoption of medieval forms of speech by the Emperor and his brother may cover a serious intention which will not be at all amusing.

"There is now no doubt anywhere of the careful preparation of the two remarkable addresses, under the eye of the Emperor. It is said to be an invariable rule on such occasions for the Emperor to know in advance exactly what is to be said to him. So he knew that his brother would address him as 'most serene Emperor, most powerful lord, king and master,' and propose to spread 'the gospel of your majesty's hallowed person.' What attracts most attention is the reported remark of the Emperor to Count Zichy. The Emperor said to him: 'You should visit China; by the time you get there you will find Prince Henry Emperor of China.'

"The London *Spectator* discusses seriously the possibilities of an enterprise that would render the Germans masters of China as the English are masters of India. It would be more comfortable to have the Queen's grandson ruling at Peking than to see the Russian there. If the Emperor halts for a time to master the province he has seized, he will still have acquired a goodly bit of land. The country back of Kiao-Chou is said to be as large as Wales, well-peopled and good for revenue. Well-disciplined German troops can accomplish much, unless they are hunted as the French were in Tongking by free-fighters."—*Democrat and Chronicle (Rep.), Rochester.*

**Promoting Commerce by Navy.**—"The Emperor explains that the decay of a once considerable German trade with the far East was due to the lack of imperial power to support the merchants, but now that has been remedied; there is plenty of imperial power, and in consequence of the killing of two missionaries this imperial power will be increased by the passage of the Government's naval estimates, and then wo be to the heathen who does not buy cotton cloth and iron jackknives made in Germany. Navies have often been invoked for the protection of an existing commerce; the Emperor believes they can be employed to create a commerce. An imperial decree to Asiatics or Africans to buy German goods, with the alternative of having their towns blown up by a German fleet, will do wonders, in his opinion, for the export trade of his country, and while he desires his people to imagine that the navy exists for the protection of commerce, he will see to it that commerce exists for the support of the navy, and not only commerce but foreign missions also. Nothing could have been more convenient than to have those two missionaries killed. But while the clergy are assured that the navy shall protect every missionary, William will see to it that the missionaries are made the means of getting his naval bill through the Reichstag. William's idea of promoting commerce by armed vessels is very similar to the commercial policy of the fine old buccaneers of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries."—*Journal of Commerce (Fin.), New York.*

**Unmistakable Challenge.**—"Reduced to its final analysis, the Emperor's speech means that Germany is at Kiao-Chou Bay to stay, and that the words 'made in Germany' are to confront other European nations in China as they have been recently doing in other quarters of the globe. In declaring that in the astonishing development of the commercial interests of the empire it was his duty to follow the new German Hansa, and to afford it the protection it is entitled to demand from the empire and the Emperor, William uttered to Great Britain, France, and Russia a challenge to a trade struggle in the far East that can not be mistaken. It is true that Emperor William is not a prudent speaker. But it is also true that he knows what he wants; that before he finishes speaking he always manages to tell what he wants, and that he generally gets what he wants in the long run."—*The Dispatch (Dem.), Richmond.*

**European Patrimony.**—"Russia, England, and France may be expected to join in this game of grab, and continue it until the whole of Asia is brought under Occidental sway.

"From a sentimental point of view, it appears a most arbitrary, high-handed proceeding for cultured nations to divide among themselves what belongs to others. But when we disregard the long lapse of time, which, after all, is simply a short span in the existence of the world, we must admit that Europeans are merely coming into their patrimony. So far as we know, the cradle of the human race stood in the highlands of Asia. From there the Aryans took up the migration westward, conquering not only the whole of Europe, but sweeping irresistibly on across the Atlantic to America.

"These migrating tribes have steadily advanced, while the stay-at-homes retrograded. The former represent refinement, culture, civilization, and physical superiority. In the hands of the latter the heritage bequeathed to them has suffered sad deterioration. What is there so unjust in the demand for an accounting and in the removal of a faithless steward? Assuredly he must have a peculiar sense of morality who feels impelled to condemn the conquest of Asia as a flagrant violation of the rights of nations."—*The Herald (Ind.), Baltimore.*

**What the United States Must Decide.**—"It is never wise to laugh too heartily when a conceited young man with unlimited command of a powerful people is the butt of the jest. The alleged crazy sovereign may turn a point before he finishes, and probably will, which will hardly be humorous. Germany and

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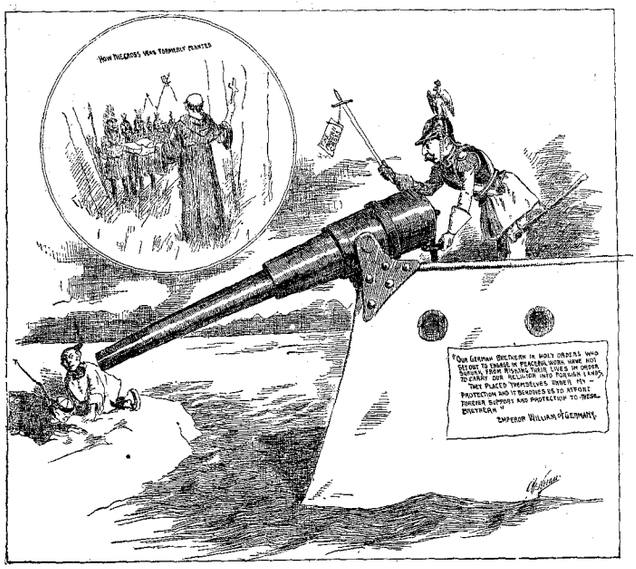
Russia are establishing themselves on the Pacific Ocean, where Great Britain is tolerably secure already. Japan is building a new empire and a new navy there. The powers of the world are concentrating their latest efforts in the Orient.

"Half of the United States fronts on the Pacific Ocean. Heretofore the isolation of that section of the republic constituted its chief element of safety. Now, with the foremost nations obtaining a substantial hold in the Western waters, the situation changes. The west coast of the republic is too far away from the Atlantic fleet to depend upon the resources of the East. Other nations recognize that they must be in touch with the onward march of civilization, or be lost in the struggle. It is with nations as with men. Unless the opportunities are accepted they are soon beyond reach. The United States must decide upon one of two things. We must confine ourselves to our present boundaries and depend upon our internal resources to hold those lines against all comers; or we must strengthen the outposts, and improve the facilities for protection against an enemy, as would be possible with a stronghold in the Sandwich Islands and a canal through the mountains of Nicaragua. Europe may laugh at the young Emperor of Germany, but it is not the time to laugh. All nations are too much concerned just now."—*The Times (Rep.), Pittsburg.*

**"American Arrogance."**—"'American arrogance' is a phrase which has recently been hurled at us by Germans of high and low degree, from Prince Bismarck down to the penny-a-liners of the Berlin *Post*. It might be worth while for these our accusers to compare the conduct of the United States toward Haiti in the case of Bernard Campbell, an American citizen, with the high-handed proceedings of the German authorities at Port-au-Prince. Campbell was induced to go to Haiti under contract to serve as an engineer on a steamer, and when he discovered that the vessel on which he was to be employed was a Haitian man-of-war he refused to serve; subsequently he was assaulted, threatened with death, held in durance, beaten, and finally thrown into the sea. He made his escape from Haiti with great difficulty, and after enduring many indignities. These events occurred in 1889; and altho the claim has since been the subject of active negotiations between the two governments, it has not yet been settled. It is now proposed by Haiti to submit the case to arbitration. If American 'arrogance' had been at all comparable with the German variety we should long ere now have harried the coast of Haiti and slaughtered tens of thousands of Haitians in our efforts to compel satisfaction by bombardments."—*The Record (Ind.), Philadelphia.*

"The fact that the German Government sent two gunboats to Port-au-Prince and enforced its demands, outside the channels of diplomacy, detracts nothing whatever, in the estimation of mankind, from the dignified position taken by President Sam in resenting the undiplomatic conduct of the German Ambassador at Port-au-Prince in the Lüders matter. All the world understands that the German Emperor acted the part of a bully and braggart in his published utterances in relation to the incident. He must inevitably suffer, as the strong fellow does always who jumps on a small fellow and then blows about it. All honor to President Sam."—*The Age (Afro-American), New York.*


HOW RELIGIOUS WARS FORMERLY STARTED
OUR GERMAN BRETHREN IN HOLY ORDERS, WHO SEEM TO CHARGE IN PEACEFUL ROBES, HAVE NOT SCRUPLED TO DRAW ROUND THEIR LIVES IN ORDER TO CARRY OUR RELIGION INTO FOREIGN LANDS, THEY PLACED THEMSELVES UNDER ITS PROTECTION AND IT BEHOOVES US TO AFFORD THEM OUR SUPPORT AND PROTECTION TO-DAY.
EMPEROR WILLIAM II. OF GERMANY.

HOW IT IS DONE NOW.—*The Herald, New York.*

## THE DEFICIT, AND WHAT TO DO ABOUT IT.

A STIRRING battle with figures is being waged over the Dingley bill and its results. The revenue of the Treasury Department for the first five months of the present fiscal year, beginning July 1, is less than the expenditures by $46,581,120. The deficit by months is as follows:

| | |
|---|---|
| July | $11,073,545 |
| August | 14,564,432 |
| September | 3,435,718 |
| October | 9,310,097 |
| November | 8,572,109 |

The President's message laid much stress upon the alleged fact that our recent embarrassments with the gold reserve and the sales of bonds were due to a deficient revenue, and his recommendation concerning the greenbacks is conditioned on the restoration of a revenue at least equal to expenditures. Under the circumstances, the continued deficit becomes a bone of very animated contention, and a number of interviews have been published on the subject. Senator Allison is reported as follows:

"The present tariff act certainly does not seem to be producing revenue enough thus far, but I should be in favor of giving it another month or two trial. By that time we can measure better the effect of the anticipatory importations and see where we are coming out. I do not regard the present prospect of adequate revenue from the act as very bright."

Senator Platt (New York) also counsels patience:

"We have tried the Dingley law only five months, and during that time the importations of wool and sugar have amounted to nothing. They are bound to be larger later."

The Secretary of the Treasury, in his annual report, has the following touching probable revenues:

"The tariff act of July 24, 1897, entitled 'An Act to provide revenue for the Government and to encourage the industries of the United States,' has not been in force long enough to determine fully its merits, but it is confidently believed that when in full operation it will afford ample revenue for the ordinary needs of the Government, while adequately protecting our manufacturing and agricultural interests.

"Owing to the heavy importations which were made in anticipation of the passage of the measure, the customs revenues received during the first three months of the operation of the act have been diminished and are not an indication of the revenue which the law will produce when importations are normal.

"Our home industries have already felt the stimulating effect of the law."

The Secretary, however, in his estimates, makes allowance for a deficit, under the present law, of $28,000,000 at the end of the fiscal year ending June 30, 1898, and a deficit of $21,647,885 at the close of the following year.

Congressman Walker (Mass.), chairman of the banking and currency committee, is reported to have commented on these estimates as follows:

"I fear that Mr. Gage's estimate of a $28,000,000 deficit will be approximately as far out of the way as that of Secretary Carlisle on the Wilson bill. I notice that Secretaries of the Treasury are prone to take a favorable view of the tariffs they approve of.

"The expenses of this Government five years hence, with any adequate attempt to keep up with the development of the country, will be in the vicinity of $1,100,000,000 for each Congress. The expenditures by the present Congress ought to be $25,000,000 to $30,000,000 more than those of the past Congress, if the Government treats its creditors decently by paying their honest claims."

One of the most important interviews that has appeared is that with Congressman Dingley appear in the New York *Evening Post*, December 6. Mr. Dingley said:

"The importations made in anticipation of the increased rates of duty paid $32,314,000 into the Treasury. Had they waited till after the new law became operative they would have paid $83,252,198. So we have more than $32,000,000 of actual receipts to add to those which are credited to the act even by its enemies, and more than $51,000,000 actual and ascertained loss which must be taken into account in any fair judgment of the act as far as it has been tried. The equivalent of both these items, under nor-

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mal conditions, may be expected to appear to the credit of the act in the Treasury books for the next year, so that, unless the deficit this year is very much heavier than it now threatens to be, this extra $83,000,000 will make up for it and a good deal more. . . . . .

"Must not the Dingley act be considered a disappointment, however, up to the present time?"

"On the contrary, look at the steady and healthy increase in the revenues from month to month: August, $18,000,000; September, $21,000,000; October, $23,000,000; November, a short month, which means a good deal when the receipts are climbing at the rate of about a million for every working day—$24,000,000! And all this before the two great sources of revenue have begun to do anything. In wools and woolens the markets have been substantially stocked for a year ahead. The sugar importations can not be looked for in any great quantity before the opening of the spring. When they do begin, they will bring in, under the present tariff, $4,500,000 a month. Altho November and December are notoriously lean revenue months, you will see the revenues in December $1,000,000 higher than those of November; January will show an increase of $2,000,000 over December, and by March we shall be about up to the mark of $30,000,000 a month. Supposing that the average monthly revenue stood still at that point, twelve times thirty gives you $360,000,000 a year, which is very close to the needed sum, even were you to cut off all miscellaneous receipts. But the conditions, as I have already shown you, are favorable to improvement in business, and, incidentally, in revenues; so that we may fairly count upon a progressive income which will presently carry us ahead of our positive needs."

In a later statement to the House of Representatives Mr. Dingley predicted an actual surplus of $10,000,000 for the next fiscal year. He explained that the Secretary of the Treasury, in estimating a deficit of $21,000,000 for that year, had been obliged by a new provision of law to include estimates of expenditures of $73,000,000 for public works,—War Department, etc.,—when the actual expenditures were not expected to exceed $30,000,000. At the present time actual government expenditures are slightly in excess of $5 per capita, and the ways and means committee had estimated that all receipts would provide an income of $5 12½ per capita. When expenditures were brought within that limit Mr. Dingley said there would be no difficulty. The estimated deficit for the present year, not counting the money from the sale of the Pacific railroads, is $28,000,000. Inasmuch as anticipatory importations had placed $38,000,000 in the Treasury before July 1, he contends that in equity that sum should be charged as receipts of the current year, making a surplus of $10,000,000 this year. He predicted that by the end of the present fiscal year revenues would exceed expenditures.

In harmony with this view the Republicans are said to have decided to leave the tariff law alone for this session.

**The Deficit Nearly Fifty Millions.**—"The subjoined remark is from the New York *Tribune*:

"'Not often is a more impudent falsehood uttered than the assertion by *The Sun* that "the tariff is piling up the deficit higher and higher every month."'

"The fical year ending June 30, 1897, ended with a deficit of $22,036,526. The schedules of the new tariff went into operation on July 24.

"The Government's expenditures for July were $49,893,000, and the receipts from customs, internal revenue, and miscellaneous sources were $39,027,364. At the end of the first month of the present fiscal year the deficit was $10,865,635, disregarding the cents.

"The Government's expenditures for August were $33,295,000. The receipts were $18,943,205. At the end of the second month of the present fiscal year, the first full month of the new tariff's operations, the deficit had grown from $10,865,635 to $25,425,338.

"The Government's expenditures for September were $24,752,361. The receipts were $21,319,644. At the end of the third month of the present fiscal year, and the second full month of the present tariff's operations, the deficit had grown from $25,425,338 to $29,012,954.

"The expenditures for October were $33,713,000. The receipts were $24,390,347. At the end of the fourth month of the fiscal year, and the third month of the present tariff, the deficit had grown from $29,012,954 to $38,338,607.

"The expenditures for November were $33,146,000. The receipts were $25,168,987. At the end of the fifth month of the fiscal year, and the fourth month of the present tariff, the deficit had grown from $38,338,607 to $45,986,023.

"These figures are taken from the Treasury statements. The slight discrepancies in the footings which will be noted by any one who follows arithmetically the steady growth of the deficit, month by month, from $11,000,000 at the end of July to $46,000,000 at the end of November, are due to the circumstances that the Treasury statement records expenditures in round numbers, while recording receipts to the dollar and cent.

"For the first seventeen days of December the Treasury statement for December 17 shows an apparent decrease in the accumulated deficit for the fiscal year, namely, a decrease during the first half of December from $45,986,023 to $19,280,923. This is a mere trick of bookkeeping, not particularly creditable to the Department. The apparent reduction in the deficit is obtained by including as income of the Government $28,000,000 refunded to the Treasury for advances heretofore made to the Pacific railroads. Correcting this misstatement of the Government's current revenues, the deficit has grown during the first seventeen days of December from $45,986,023 to about $47,250,000."—*The Sun (Rep.), New York.*

**Revenues Improving.**—"A careful study of the reports issued from week to week shows conclusively that the condition of the United States Treasury is gradually improving.

"The monthly deficit is growing less, and the figures issued at regular intervals hold out the hope that the governmental income will equal expenses within a few months.

"The total deficit for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1897, was $22,036,000, or $1,836,000 a month. But this deficit was immensely cut down by the increased income arising from anticipatory importations during the last four months in which the Wilson-Gorman law was in operation. These importations in advance amounted to many millions of dollars in value, and the revenue arising from them was in the neighborhood of $10,000,000 a month in excess of regular importations.

"The extent of this movement of merchandise into the United States and its effect upon the revenues can be appreciated when it is taken into account that the declared value of imports in April last was $101,322,000, against $58,649,000 in the same month of 1896; and that the importations of May and June for this year were valued at $79,358,000 and $85,183,000 respectively, against $57,260,000 and $56,163,000 during the same months of 1896.

"The Dingley law went into operation on July 24, and in August imports dropped to $39,847,000 in value, from which figure they have been gradually and slowly rising.

"In August the government payments were heavy and the revenues light, and the monthly deficit was $14,000,000. September saw it whittled down to $3,432,000; in October it arose to $9,403,000, but in November it fell to $7,978,000. And for the first eighteen days of the present month $17,360,000 has been received, from which it is estimated that the December deficit will be something less than $5,000,000.

"These figures, of course, do not indicate that the average monthly deficit for the fiscal year will fall below $1,836,000. However, imports are not only bound to increase in all lines, but the bringing in of sugar during the spring months will do precisely what the bringing in of everything else did last summer in the way of increasing the revenues and wiping out the deficit. It is confidently expected that a balance between receipts and expenditures will be struck in March, and that the showing for the fiscal year will be no less encouraging than that of last year, with the added assurance that the Government is finally on a paying basis."—*The Herald (Ind.), Baltimore.*

**A Demonstration of Republican Insincerity.**—"The same party which had told the nation that a deficiency tariff was so much the source of its woes that the most extraordinary efforts must be resorted to for its removal, and that haste in legislation and the concentration of effort to that end were indispensable necessities, has itself actually created a deficiency tariff! As an incident of their action they have demonstrated alike the untruth and the insincerity of what they said. It is proved to be untrue because, if we take their own word for it, prosperity has returned while a deficiency tariff is still in existence, and they have abandoned their claim in this respect. It is shown to be insincere because, when they had opportunity to make a tariff which should save the nation from a deficiency, they declined to do so.

"There is still left to these men to contend that their tariff may

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bring an adequate remedy in process of time, and they will doubtless make the most of this pretext; but it must be remembered that their original assertion was that adequate revenue was needed immediately. The nation was suffering every day for lack of this, it was said, and nothing else would be adequate to relieve business from its depression. They called Congress into session at the earliest moment it could be got together, not to put into operation a tariff that would make receipts meet expenditures next spring or next summer. Any suggestion that their purpose went no further than this would have been scoffed at by themselves. Their avowed object was to aid a presently suffering country. So far from doing this, they have put upon the nation a tariff which in less than a third of a year has brought to it a deficiency of nearly $35,000,000, with an amount constantly increasing."—*The Herald (Ind.), Boston.*

**Stop the Deficit!**—"Secretary Gage is the first Republican head of the Treasury who ever laid before Congress—doubtless unwillingly, for Mr. Gage is sound in this—estimates for expenditure greater than his estimates of revenue. This must stop. It is fatal to national credit, to national honesty, and to national honor. Deficits accepted as a matter of course, as they were by President Cleveland and the Democratic majorities of the past four years, are utterly demoralizing. They sap the very foundations of national solvency. No party can permit them and expect to retain popular confidence, nor ought it. The American people is honest to the core, and wilful, premeditated deficits are incarnate dishonesty.

"A deficit for two years to come is now universally accepted. Mr. Cannon's elaborate explanation that if this, that, or the other thing had not happened the deficit for 1899 would be smaller has nothing to do with the matter. It is mere bookkeeping. It twists figures. It does not provide revenue. For raising revenue Mr. Cannon is not responsible, but he speaks as chairman of the appropriations committee for the Republican majority, which is responsible for raising revenue.

"The country expects, and it ought to have a frank, explicit, resolute declaration from the leaders of the Republican majority, that the deficit will be met by levying new taxes to raise sufficient revenue. Such a declaration would meet an instant public response and would create a public confidence nothing else can. More revenue is to-day the first duty of the Republican majority of the House. The precise method by which the revenue shall be provided is a subject for consideration. The vote itself is a matter for the future. But the determination to levy all the taxes needed to meet the expenses of the Government economically administered ought to be reached, made, and announced now."—*The Press (Rep.), Philadelphia.*

A CHRISTMAS GIFT FOR THE PRESIDENT.
—*The Record, Chicago.*

**Fallacious Argument from Anticipatory Importations.**—"A person might assume that a falling-off of importations during the year 1897 would show that Mr. Dingley's contention of a great trade to come was sound, and he would apparently be justified. But the fallacy is readily detected. There were some anticipatory importations, especially in wool and sugar. These stocks of merchandise, however, replenished supplies reduced to narrow proportions. But Mr. Dingley entertains the notion that as soon as this merchandise is used up other stocks of it will have to be imported. Now recognizing that the quantities were not large to begin with, it is necessary to ask whether they are to be as heavy as in the years referred to. The state of our industrial conditions puts a negative on this interrogation. The anticipatory imports were not excessive, and they were not for a very good reason, that American industry is gradually denying a market to foreign goods formerly imported in large quantities. The conclusion follows that as the anticipatory supplies were comparatively limited except in two cases, the expectation of heavy invoices of goods hereafter, founded on the theory that they were extraordinarily extensive, is ill-substantiated, the same fact acting against foreign trade in both instances."—*The Journal (Ind.), Providence, R. I.*

**Prosperity and Deficits.**—"If the Dingley tariff shall fail of sufficient revenue it will not fail of restoration of prosperity; if there be a deficit it will be one that quickly can be remedied by a prosperous people. The Wilson deficit fell heavily on an impoverished people.

"But we do not admit the probability of more than a temporary deficit. Of course until the vast stocks imported in anticipation of the higher duties of the Wilson law are depleted there will be a shortage of tariff revenue. But the Dingley law is very like to the McKinley law, and under the operation of that we had a comfortable surplus of millions. The immense exports of the McKinley era were accompanied by a large volume of imports. It is true that we did not import so many of the necessaries of life that can be produced in the United States under the McKinley tariff as under the Wilson tariff, but the unprecedented prosperity of the country begot a generous scale of expenditure and our imports of luxuries increased. There are signs of a return to this desirable condition, our exports are immense, and as the stock of imports in bond decreases our factories and mills grow busier, money becomes more generally circulated, and while most of it will stay at home it is more than probable that enough of it will go abroad to raise our duties on imports to a sum commensurate with the needs of the Government.

"This view is taken by the appraiser of customs for New York and by other experts. But if the worst come to the worst, there will be this difference between 1897 and the years immediately preceding it: Then we sent most of our money abroad, and had a deficit, with no home funds to abolish it; now if we have a deficit we shall have kept most of our money at home and be in good shape to take up a temporary domestic loan. But we apprehend no permanent deficit. Indeed, we confidently anticipate a comfortable surplus at the expiration of the second year of the operation of the new tariff, and quite possibly at the end of the first."—*The Inter Ocean (Rep.), Chicago.*

## DANGER OF BECOMING EUROPEANIZED?

"DOWN with the ill-disguised purpose of a half-foreign minority to Europeanize the United States!" exclaims Dr. John Clark Ridpath in the December *Arena*. Dr. Ridpath makes the term Europeanize cover certain anti-democratic tendencies which he deems dangerously existent, notably influences of commerce, accumulated wealth, "society," and Government with a capital G. In the twentieth century, he says, we shall either be Europeanized or democratized; there is no place of stable equilibrium between the two. "This is true for the reason that there can be no such thing as a democratic monarchy; no such thing as a monarchical republic; no such thing as a popular aristocracy; no such thing as a democracy of nabobs. The twentieth century will bring us either to democracy unequivocal or to empire absolute. . . . The democratic republic which we *thought* we had, and which we so greatly prized and fought for,

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must now sheer off *from* Europe altogether, or else sail quietly back *to* Europe and come to anchor. Shall we or shall we not go thither?"

Of the circumstances bringing us to this alternative, Dr. Ridpath takes up first, commerce, which, while it civilizes and enriches, tends to make alike:

"Commerce may be good, but it has its drawbacks and its dangers. Commerce does not desire liberty, but it desires stability. It does not want change and progress, but fixedness and conservatism. When the people of two nations trade, the people of the free nation, the progressive nation, the changing nation, get in love with the nation that is not free, that does not progress, that does not change. For this reason the seaboard interests of America have become interwoven in a plexus of foreign relations. That which we hoped to avoid politically has come to pass commercially. The commercial parts of the United States are already bound in a great web to the corresponding interests of Europe. So far as the threads of this web extend in America, to that limit the preference for Europe and the tolerance of European conditions have extended. Since the rise of the great commercial epoch, the sea-bordering emporia of the United States have been each year bound more and more to the European marts. To this extent interest has supplanted patriotism. As between the ship on the one hand and the republic on the other—well, the republic may take care of itself! That is, democracy is good enough, but trade is better!"

Then there is the influence of "society," so-called. "Society, that is, the sham of society, is getting interlocked across the Atlantic." "Society, as soon as it emancipates itself from the conditions of production and finds the means of independent support in revenues drawn from funds, takes refuge, not under the flag of the nation, but under the flag of power. . . . Society considers the opera-house and the arsenal more attractive than the schoolhouse and the fair."

"American society on its Eastern selvage strives to get itself interwoven more and more with those aristocratic forms and fictions which are the peculiar social products of Europe. On both sides of the sea society tends to a common form and substance. The intervention of the Atlantic, shrunken to a pond, is no longer an obstacle to social intercourse. Along a great part of the American seaboard the motive of a foreign connection is to-day stronger than any remaining motive of public liberty. The social influence of the whole United States west of the Alleghanies is not as strong in New York as the single influence of the Prince of Wales! Under such conditions the notion of Europeanizing America is not only entertained, but is regarded with complacency and undisguised favor."

The influences of accumulated wealth are said to be of the same kind; "wealth has no country—and never had"; the stock exchanges and the banks of the world are literally *imperium in imperio*:

"The bourse considers government as an instrument, not for the enlargement of human liberty, not for the promotion of man, not for the extension of civilization, not for invention and letters and art, but for the protection of the bourse. The bourse in all nations is common; it is a unit. It is founded on thrones and dynasties; on kingdoms and empires and republics, and on man! The bourse says that the United States is a part of the European system—or must be; that our institutions in the old democratical form are too weak for safety; that the American republic must be conformed with all expedient haste to the gainful standards and substantial methods of Europe; that our democratic ship must be drawn up to the harbor and anchored under the guns of the old fort, where the dangerous rights of man may be carefully regulated by the triumphant rights of property."

Again, the great fact called government drifts strongly toward the European side.

"It is a tendency in all government to make itself great and glorious. Government is never modest, never humble. It always encroaches, and enlarges itself at the expense of those interests which it is designed to conserve. Government does not look affectionately toward man, but always affectionately toward the organic form and splendor of things. . . . . .

"The American republic is under this law. As a result, it has drifted toward the very condition which was renounced by our fathers. This republic is not any longer Jeffersonian. There is hardly a trace of the Jeffersonian philosophy and intent left in it. The name of Jefferson is still used to conjure with, but it is used by those who are innocent of Jeffersonian principles. Each succeeding administration approximates the European style. Strange paradox this, but true, that the Republican Lincoln was the last Jeffersonian to occupy the Presidential chair; he who recently claimed to wear the panoply of Jefferson was furthest of all from the type which he falsified."

Are there counteracting forces in American life? Dr. Ridpath believes that the great majority of the people hold back from the European drift. "The belief of many and the hope of not a few that we shall be restored to the European fold are mere rot and reaction!"

"Probably four citizens out of five in this republic are at heart still sincerely devoted to free institutions. Four out of five believe with might and soul in the righteousness of our colonial rebellion against Great Britain, and the goodness of absolute independence. Four out of five think human liberty something, and not nothing. Four out of five consider our democratic institutions to be—as they are—the most advanced and satisfactory forms of civil society ever created by man. Four out of five regard the Government of the United States as a simple agent for the expression of the will and hope of the people. Four out of five share not at all in the rising distrust which wealth and commerce and society and power cherish against the masses in their plan of governing themselves by the freely expressed will of the majority. . . . . .

"This question is the essence of the current commotion in our country. On the one hand wealth, organization, commerce, 'society,' all the prevailing forces in our public life, are on the alert, buzzing like Athenians about 'the foreign affairs of the United States'; this when we should have no foreign affairs, or only a few. Our political powers are as deep as their elbows in every complication of the world. American newspapers are at a white heat—over what? Over nothing—unless we are to become a part of Europe. In that event, we are already in the swiftest swim. In that event, we have not far to go until we shall be even as the rest. But if, on the other hand, America suffices for herself—as she does—and for the future of mankind; if our republic is to continue as the one singular example of public liberty under law, showing forth the freedom of man in its highest and best civil and social manifestations, then shall we be, not Europeanized, but democratized more than ever. And that is the one desideratum that now presents itself as a supreme motive in our destiny."

## TOPICS IN BRIEF.

SECRETARY GAGE'S financial plan looks beautiful now; but wait until the United States Senate is through with it.—*The North American, Philadelphia.*

APROPOS of the meteorites, the following amusing story is told by Sir Robert Ball respecting one of these celestial visitors. A meteorite which fell on a farm in America was claimed by the ground landlord, as his lease reserved all minerals and metals. The tenant objected on the score that the article was not on the property when the lease was executed. The landlord then claimed it as flying game, but the lessee pleaded that the thing had neither feathers nor wings, and claimed it as ground game. But while the dispute was going on the customs officers seized the meteorite, on the ground that the revenue had been defrauded by its introduction into the country without payment of duty.—*The Industrial World, Chicago.*

THE DRAMA IN POLITICS.
HAMLET PARKHURST: "Alas, poor New Yorick!"
—*The Journal, New York.*

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## LETTERS AND ART.

### THE AMERICAN HISTORICAL NOVEL.

WHAT is an historical novel? Paul Leicester Ford wrestles with this question in the first three pages of the leading article in *The Atlantic Monthly* (December), and reaches this conclusion: that "a novel is historical or unhistorical because it embodies or does not embody the real feelings and tendencies of the age or generation it attempts to depict, and in no sense because the events it records have happened or the people it describes have lived." The fact that the colonial laws of Massachusetts decreed a very different story from that in "The Scarlet Letter"; that the Pretender never came in disguise to England, as Thackeray in "Henry Esmond" represents him as doing; that the Indian of real life and the Indian of Cooper's tales were very dissimilar creatures; that "Westward Ho" is animated by a narrow-minded and irritating anti-Romanism, does not destroy the rightful claim of such works to be known as historical novels. It is not the dealing with well-known historical characters, not historical accuracy, not even the treatment of past times that makes a novel historical; but it is the use of an historical atmosphere, as in "Ivanhoe" and "Henry Esmond," and the accurate representation of the feelings of the generation depicted.

In maintaining his argument that a novel dealing with contemporaneous life is apt to be better history than one treating of a former generation, Mr. Ford says:

"Nor is party feeling avoided by lapse of years, tradition being as partizan as the men who transmit it. Save in one or two of Cooper's novels, it would be wellnigh impossible to find a romance dealing with Revolutionary history which does not make the Whig of that war the patriot, and the Tory the disloyal and, usually, evil-acting man. Yet the student of history knows that the loyalists, if a minority, were largely composed of the gentry and educated classes of the country; that they were the equivalent of what to-day are termed the 'better element,' and were superior in character to many of the men who opposed them. No American novelist has ventured to write of John Hancock and Jonathan Trumbull as men suspected of smuggling, or of Samuel Adams as a public man who sought, as other officials have done more recently, to vindicate himself from the charge of defalcation by an appeal to the ballots of the masses. Would any American author, striving to write popular fiction, dare to picture one signer of the Declaration as selling the secrets of his country to the French Ministry for a paltry pension, or another taking advantage of information of the need of the Continental cause for wheat to corner the supply at once so far as he was able? In one case alone have our writers dared to draw an approximately faithful portrait of a man who came to the front in early Revolutionary days; to describe the bounty-jumper, deserter, smuggler, and drunkard, who, nevertheless, rose to high honor in the American cause, and the reason for this exception is explained when the name of the man is given as Benedict Arnold."

Proceeding, Mr. Ford speaks of the historical novel's advantages (its convincingness and its instructive value), and disadvantages; and, chief among these latter, he mentions the rigidity of the events and conditions with which it generally deals, and the very great difficulty in delineating the character of an historical personage. On this point he writes:

"As an example, take the idea of Washington as presented in 'The Virginians.' How shadowy the drawing is, how absolutely weak the personality, as compared with those of George and Harry Warrington! Thackeray had studied the conventional historical portrait of the man and then transferred it as well as could be to new surroundings. But just because the man was so well known, the author was all the more hampered in his treatment of him, and painstakingly as he sought to vivify him the portrait is at once colorless through its attempted accuracy, yet defective in its truth. Who in reading of the prim, formal, sensible man of twenty-six in the novel could infer from his reading the reality?—the gay young officer who was overfond of 'fashionable' clothes; who held a good cue at billiards; who passed whole days winning or losing money at cards; who loved the theater and the cockpit; who could brew bowls of arrack punch, and do his share in drinking them; who could dance for three hours without once resting; and who fell in and out of love so fiercely and so easily. Nor is this artificiality due to a transatlantic point of view of our great American. The portrait of Washington as given by Cooper in 'The Spy' is equally absurd, tho drawn by an American writer who could have talked with many who knew Washington personally. In each case the attempt is made to give us, not Major Washington of the Virginia regiment, or General Washington of the Continental army, but the sobered and aged President Washington of tradition."

In fact, so we are told, there can not be found, in all American historical fiction, a celebrated character who was as well a real character; and the same assertion may be extended to English literature also. Nevertheless, American historical fiction has given us its full share of people who have passed into literature as types; it has created for us, through the pens of Mrs. Stowe and Cooper, "our idea concerning two great races which, it is probable, will remain through all time." It has done more than this: it has given us our two most famous novelists—Cooper and Hawthorne; and in their best work, and in "Uncle Tom's Cabin" and "Ben Hur," we have what are to this day the most positive successes of American fiction.

Speaking of the recent revival of interest in American history, and of fiction dealing with it, Mr. Ford criticizes the latter for its "entire disregard of the big elements of American life and an overaccentuation of the untypical." We quote again:

"Who in reading American fiction has ever brought away a sense of real glory in his own country? We are told that our people are hopelessly occupied in money-making, and that our politics are shamefully corrupt. Yet the joint product of these forces has won, or is winning, equality of man, religious liberty, the right of asylum, freedom of the ocean, arbitration of international disputes, and universal education; and this, too, while these people were fighting a threefold struggle with man, beast, and nature across a vast continent.

"Disregarding all this, the novelist has turned to the petty in American life. With the most homogeneous people in both thought and language in the world, American literature is overburdened with dialect stories; with no true class distinctions, and with an essential resemblance in American life from the Atlantic to the Pacific, the novel of locality has been accepted as typical and not exceptional; with a people less absorbed in and less influenced by so-called society than any other great nation, we are almost submerged with what may be styled the Afternoon Tea Novel."

### KIPLING AND HIS MESSAGE.

IN reviewing the new edition, in twelve volumes, of Rudyard Kipling's works, Barrett Wendell, assistant professor of English at Harvard, endeavors to state the message which, as he conceives, Kipling is more or less consciously conveying to us in his prose and his poetry alike. Professor Wendell writes for the literary supplement of *The Times* (New York), and begins as follows:

"Ten years ago the name of Rudyard Kipling was supposed, by anybody that knew it at all, to be the improbable pseudonym of some clever person who had begun to write dashing, ephemeral stories and stray verses about the English in India. To-day his fame is recognized as the true one of the man who, if any, has attained by common consent the chief position in contemporary English literature. Already, too, people, perhaps, grow tired of hearing that he is not yet thirty-two years old. When one remembers, however, that he has already been at least a popular writer for fully ten years, one begins to see what his age signifies. When he wrote the tales and the poems which we used to think a bit impudent in their crudity, he was well under twenty—no older than the average junior in a New England college.

"These early works of his, besides, we have known long enough

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to be assured that we were wrong in thinking them ephemeral. Certainly the verses, and to no small degree the stories, bear the test of repeated reading. What he has written since, to be sure, has been, on the whole, increasingly stronger and better; but if there be one trait which more than another forces itself on whoever ponders over Kipling's collected works, it is that the better one knows them the better they prove worth knowing. His stories, everybody can feel, have tended, without losing a bit of their spirit, to grow firmer and more pregnant. His poems, meanwhile, at least to some of us, have not quite preserved the lucidity which at first marked them. Ten years ago, for example, nobody would have dreamed that the author of 'Barrack-Room Ballads' would ever give us some stirring stanzas about White Horses, which should leave more than one reasonably intelligent reader in doubt as to what he meant the animals to signify. One thing, however, remains true of Kipling's poetry from the beginning. Whatever it be meant to mean, it is always hauntingly, indefinably suggestive."

What phase of the protean meaning of life has Kipling expressed? In answering this, Professor Wendell refers to the racial struggles, especially those between Europe and Asia, which seem to be drawing near. He says:

"When history, past or present, takes on such aspects as this, human affairs suddenly assume a new, startling, bewildering guise. At comfortable moments we are accustomed to assume that men of various ability control, first themselves, then one another, and finally the course of things on earth. At critical moments we are beginning to know with tragic certainty that men, like other earthly things, are to an incalculable degree the sentient victims of forces, or, if you prefer, of powers utterly beyond human control."

A thoughtful man who, like Kipling, has passed his early life in British India, must realize the foregoing; but a stranger to Kipling may not even guess whether he has consciously set before us the tremendously significant aspects of life that must have been thus revealed to him. To Mr. Wendell, however, this great truth of racial struggle seems to underlie both his tales and his poems.

Speaking of the vigorous individuality of Kipling's characters, Professor Wendell says further:

"As you grow by repeated reading, however, to feel thoroughly acquainted with the characters of Kipling, you grow more and more certain that somehow these differ from any others. And slowly you begin to realize how. One and all, high and low, brute and human, these individuals, for all their sentient individuality, are living in the presence and in the power of a force utterly beyond human control. Unlike the fate of classic tragedy as it is unlike the mysterious and unseen something which hovers unphrased behind the tragedy of Shakespeare, this strangely modern, inexorable immensity grows sometimes more startlingly significant than either. For, unlike them, it is a growing certainty of our modern life. We men of this closing century have had a way of deeming ourselves conquerors of nature; can it be that we are only her sport?

"And if so, how does that pitiless force reveal itself to our opening eyes? Not, we begin to see, as a steady, unyielding weight of pressure, but rather as a stormy, fluctuating ebb and flow. This struggle of ours is with the rising tide of an oceanic eternity. Far enough from Kipling such metaphor may have seemed to lead us; and yet if we have understood ourselves it has brought us back to him again. For if there be one fact in nature which more than another symbolizes such emotion as we have just tried to realize, it is the rhythmical surge of a tempestuous sea. And if in all modern literature there be poetry whose deeper power lies not in its phrase, not in its melody, but in the resistless surge of its almost colossal rhythm, it is this growingly inarticulate, endlessly haunting poetry of Kipling.

"In his tales and in his poems alike, then, this youngest and most surely notable of contemporary English writers has wittingly or not phrased the deepest facts of the life which reveals itself to our time—the struggle, on the one hand, of humanity with the forces which would crush it; and the struggle, within the bounds of humanity, for racial survival."

## A GREAT ITALIAN HUMORIST.

THE most celebrated writer of modern Italian literature is Alessandro Mazzoni, the founder of the romantic school in Italy. This writer was born at Milan on the 7th of March, 1785. Unlike many other poets, Mazzoni was so slow in developing that he ranked among the dunces in the various schools to which he was sent. At the age of fifteen, however, he wrote a couple of sonnets which were not without merit. After the death of his father, in 1805, he joined his mother at Auteuil and spent two years there with the literary set called the "Idealogues"; at this time, also, he took up the creed of Voltaire, which he afterward, under the influence of his first wife, exchanged for that of the most ardent Catholicism. His first appearance before the public was in 1806–7, in a poem entitled "Urania" and in a eulogy on Count Carlo Imbonati, who had left him considerable property. He survived not only his first and second wives, but seven of his nine children. He died of spinal meningitis May 22, 1873. So greatly was he loved that after his remains had lain in state in Milan for several days, they were followed to the cemetery by a vast throng, including all the great officers of state.

It is probable that no man of genius ever had a finer tribute than did Mazzoni in Verdi's "Requiem," which was written especially to honor his memory. Mazzoni is best known by his great romance, "The Betrothed," which has passed through one hundred and eighteen editions in Italian, nineteen in French, seventeen in German, and ten in English.

From Signor Arturo Graf's article (*Nuova Antologia*, Rome, November 1) on Don Abbondio, the priest in "The Betrothed," we take the following extracts:

"In addition to his other characteristics Mazzoni was a great humorist, the greatest that Italy has produced, and one of the greatest the world has ever seen. Everything in him cooperates to render him one: the goodness of his spirit and the acuteness of his mind, the vivacity of sentiment and the lack of sentimentality, the clear vision of the things of this world and their ineffectiveness, the skepticism which does not exclude faith and the faith which does not become credulity. Mazzoni is a great humorist because he is a realist and an idealist at the same time; that is to say, he has a quick sense of the real and a clear notion of the ideal. Humor springs directly at the head of the real and the ideal, when it is found in a well-balanced and serene mind, because no one possesses pure realism or pure idealism. It has been said by some one that humor is irreconcilable with the Christian sentiment; but if humor arises from the contrast between the real and the ideal, and takes cognizance of a certain knowledge of the necessary imperfection of human nature, and, moreover, of the universal vanity of finite things, it is impossible to see the reason of this incompatibility; and if it is remembered that humor is composed of sympathy and piety, it would seem that the Christian sentiment would favor it rather than otherwise. It is certainly true that humor is more generally frequent among the moderns than the ancients; Cervantes, Swift, and Sterne were good Christians (the last two being ministers), and Gian Paola, who expressly defines humor as being comic romanticism, says that no one can possess humor without an idea of the infinite."

Professor Graf proceeds with an analysis of Don Abbondio's character, and finds excuses for his lies, his egotism, his cowardice, his groans and complaints. American readers, however, will be more interested in the following passage, in which Don Abbondio and Don Quixote are compared:

"But of all the characters in 'The Betrothed' the most humorous is certainly Don Abbondio; so that, after the unrivaled and unique Don Quixote, now become a sort of moral entity necessary to the human mind and human conversation, it is probable that Don Abbondio is the most profoundly humorous person of all literature. Don Abbondio is in many respects the reverse of Don Quixote. Don Quixote is always ready to attempt the most chimerical duties. Don Abbondio flees from the most real duties at the first glimpse of danger. Don Quixote, having too much soul, goes beyond the mark. Don Abbondio, for want of soul,

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never reaches it. Don Quixote is imprisoned in the ideal, and no longer sees the real. Don Abbondio is shut up in the real, and no longer sees the ideal. But Don Quixote and Don Abbondio have two points in common: they both live in a world for which they were not made and which makes sport of them. With both everything goes contrary to their intentions."—*Translated for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

## VERESTCHAGIN ON THE ART OF THE DAY.

FRESH from a triumphant series of exhibitions in the European capitals, the great Russian painter, Verestchagin, has given his impressions and ideas on modern art and artists to a representative of the St. Petersburg *Novosti*. We translate the more interesting portions of the interview.

Questioned in regard to the tendencies of the younger schools of painters, Verestchagin said:

"It has become the fashion to paint pictures absolutely without meaning and purpose, but the cultivated portion of the European public has no sympathy with this form of decadence in art. It responds more quickly to such paintings as appeal both to the sense of beauty and the reflective faculties. Thus in Vienna my exhibition coincided with another one, representing the *fin-de-siècle* productions of local artists. While they could hardly attract one hundred visitors a day, my exhibition was daily attended by five thousand persons. Even more significant is the fact that while my pictures of southern and northern Russia inspired some interest and sympathy, the attention was generally centered on the campaign of 1812, in which Napoleon is depicted by me not only as a captain and military leader, but also as a man, hero, and sufferer. It is, after all, humanity that interests men.

"Not that I place meaning above execution and form. No, both are entitled to the same degree of concern and care. I assume that the artist who lacks technic is a mere tyro, an aspirant, one who can lay no claim to the name artist; but it is equally true that the artist who lacks pregnant ideas is like a bouquet without fragrance, like fruit without taste. It seems self-evident that the more educated and broad-minded the artist is, the more valuable and profitable are the creations emanating from his enlightened mind. Take those who teach the doctrine of art for art's sake, the decadents, and examine their works. Truly, fruit without tools. They suggest the work of literary decadents—phrases, blank forms, without content."

According to Verestchagin, the trouble is that artists are not sufficiently trained and educated, in a general sense, for their life-work. He would educate artists as those aiming at professional careers are educated. To-day, he remarks, the means and resources of modern governments are wasted on warlike preparations, and art is of necessity neglected. In the future, he hopes, the social mission of art will be better appreciated, and proper education will be provided for aspiring artists.

Verestchagin gives a striking illustration of the danger of insincerity and ignorance in art from a political and social standpoint. He has been challenged, he says, for representing Napoleon, in the 1812 campaign, as wrapped up in a great fur top-coat and as wearing an enormous fur hat which left only his nose exposed to the frost. He not only has found incontestable evidence of this, but he has further found that Napoleon was similarly protected during the battle of Eilau. Now the famous paintings at the Louvre of Napoleon at this battle represent him as neatly and coquettishly attired in a short velvet jacket, exposing the lower part of his body to bitter cold. "Now," says Verestchagin, "had these artists shown more regard for truth and less for flattering and French vanity, they would in their picture, painted after the peace of Tilsit, have unconsciously warned the French against a frivolous and light-hearted entrance upon the disastrous campaign of 1812. They would have shown the necessity of taking proper precautions in regard to winter clothing, etc., and the outcome might have been entirely different." This is no far-fetched notion, insists the painter; it proves the danger of superficiality and carelessness of fact.

## DID TENNYSON POSE?

AT least one "plain reader" of the Tennyson "Memoirs" has failed to be properly impressed by the many protests which the great bard is represented to have made against notoriety and press personalities. This particular "plain reader" expresses his or her incredulity on the subject in the London *Saturday Review* (November 27). What arouses suspicion at the outset, so this writer thinks, is Hallam Tennyson's apology for the publication of the "Memoirs," which, he tells us, are published only to keep out any other biography. "You are not to have a common 'Life' it seems; but you get one all the same; it is a sort of concealment of birth of a biography." *The Saturday Review* writer continues:

"The most cursory examination would have shown the biographer the impossibility of the pose and the repeated inconsistencies of any attempt to maintain it. But he goes on bravely to give us the cross-fire of theory and practise, and he gives it without a ghost of a smile. The laureate, after declaring to Mr. Palgrave that, had he an unpublished autobiography of Horace in MS. in his hand, he would burn it, because a poet's life is to be found in his work alone, did himself arrange with his son to have this prolonged biography produced, and to include in it, to the great increase of its bulk and its price as literary merchandise, the second and third-rate poems his finer taste suppressed during his lifetime. Without any fear of the 'ghouls,' there could have been a bonfire of these. The 'resurrectionists' were they of the poet's own household; and when they invoke his authority for the deed, they invite us to deny the sincerity of his constant protest against the publication of inferiorities, and to impugn for the first time the critical judgment hitherto held to be in him all but unerring. Again, with the suggestion of a pose, the poet writes to Mr. Gladstone: 'I heard of an old lady the other day to whom all the great men of her time had written. When Froude's "Carlyle" came out, she rushed up to her room, and to an old chest there in which she kept their letters, and flung them into the fire. "They were written to me," she said, "not to the public!" And she set her chimney on fire, and her children and grandchildren ran in—"The chimney's on fire!" "Never mind," she said, and went on burning. I should like to raise an altar to that old lady, and burn incense upon it.' Yet Tennyson, at this very time and always, had the habit of keeping nearly all the letters he received, including mere invitations to dinner; so that when they came to be turned to the purpose of a biography, two devoted friends of the Tennysons had to wade through over forty thousand of these human or inhuman documents. The smoke of their burning had made a fit incense indeed to offer to the 'old lady'; but to her the poor honor of lip-service alone was rendered. Some Tennyson letters indeed were burned; but the fact is not remarked with the exultation the reader might expect: 'All the letters from my father to Arthur Hallam were destroyed by his father after Arthur's death—a great loss.' The same confusion of pose and of practise confronts the reader again and again. The biographer has a partiality for letters addressed to dukes, and a preference—perhaps still more subtly mundane—for those addressed to workmen. . . . More allusions are made to the craving of the age for personalities; and then the eye lights on a passage which records that Mr. Ruskin has been to lunch and that he wore his accustomed blue tie. 'This horrible age of blab' is thrown at us once more, and then we hear that the poet's own 'anecdotes and sayings were taken down as soon as spoken,' and that, for instance, 'he admired much Miss Mary Anderson, and held her to be the flower of girlhood.' 'Confound the publicities and gabblements of the nineteenth century!' again he cries, when an Edinburgh paper has unblushingly announced a new poem of his as in the press. But turn the pages, and you are fully informed by his official biographer that he liked a dinner of 'beefsteak and potato, a cut of cheese, a pint of port, and afterward a pipe (never a cigar)'; and that, to take a random illustration, he once stopped reading to Joachim because the cook was in bed in the next room. By all means tell it; but do not interlard the recital with denunciations of other reciters. This 'gabblement' about 'gabblement' goes on until it is tiresome even as a study of human inconsistency. There is a Nemesis that awaits it too at the end of the Memoir. In the closing scene of his father's life the son records: 'At three o'clock he was pleased with the tele-

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gram about him from the Queen, but he muttered, "Oh! that press will get hold of me now!"' The day after that he died; and the day after that his own medical attendant published to the press what the biographer still calls 'the medical bulletin' as follows: 'On the bed a figure of breathing marble, flooded and bathed in the light of the full moon streaming through the oriel window; his hand clasping the Shakespeare which he had asked for but recently and which he had kept by him to the end; the moonlight, the majestic figure, as he lay there "drawing thicker breath," irresistibly brought to our minds his own "Passing of Arthur."' Surely the irony of history could not further go, nor retribution be more complete.

"Again, it was a way with the bard to resent a stare. The New Englanders who came, lightheartedly certain of a welcome, to look over the wall at Farringford, and the British tourist who made picnic at Alum Bay in the hope of at least a distant glimpse of him, became the dearest object of his dread. Yet one must be forgiven the suspicion that he missed the tourists if they were not there. Readers of Sir Henry Taylor's 'Autobiography' will remember the diatribe uttered by Tennyson to Mrs. Cameron against the persecutions of autograph collectors: a diatribe which ended with the quite contrary lament that he had received no letters for three days, and that he feared there was an atrophy in the world about him and his fame. In that anecdote you have the man for whom, as Mr. A. C. Benson rightly says, you seek in vain in the Memoir. The mood was so variable that if one day he met in the lanes two girls who did not turn round to look after him, he would growl, 'They don't know who I am'; and the next, if they did look round, would cry, 'Americans!' His costume bore out the same delightful contrariness. The wide-awake, that Mr. Gladstone really did shy at when it threatened the House of Lords, he wore not as one who hates to be regarded by the curious eye. And there was one occasion when a little boy proved as frank as another of his age and sex in Hans Andersen's story. He had been out with the bard, who, returning, complained in deep tones of the intrusive eyes of man and woman. 'Then why do you wear that blue cloak?' was the home question that came back in a treble tone; and then all was still."

## BIOLOGICAL LITERARY CRITICISM.

TWO eminent French literary critics, Sainte-Beuve and Taine, propounded the theory that, in order to be able to determine the value of a work of art, literary or other, a critic must be acquainted with the mental organization and environment of the artist. According to them, the work is the expression of a psychological individuality, and they used every means to know thoroughly the producer, in order to understand the product. A very long step in advance of this theory has been taken by Dr. Edward Toulouse in the *Revue Scientifique* (Paris, November 27), who maintains that no one is competent to criticize a work of art unless he is a physician and a physiologist. The completely equipped critic should be, besides, an alienist. In order to sum up these qualifications in one convenient word, Dr. Toulouse has chosen the word biologist. It is pointed out that psychological conditions are intimately connected with physiological conditions. So that no critic can accurately estimate the value of a novel, for instance, unless he has ascertained the physical organization and condition of the novelist, his circulation, respiration, and temperature, the state of his liver and digestive organs, the soundness or unsoundness of his ganglions and entire nervous system!

In order to justify the assumption that a critic of literature or art should be a thorough alienist, it is declared that, during the composition or construction of a work at all worthy of criticism, the writer or artist is in a state of temporary delirium:

"When an alienist is called in to a patient out of his mind, the physician often finds that the sick man is interested in questions of an historical or political nature, which at first sight would seem to be wholly out of the field of his customary thought. Why the ideas of the sick man run in this channel must be determined more or less accurately by the alienist. Either the patient has a certain natural tendency to trouble himself about these ideas, or there is something in his past or present environment to account for them. Just so with a novel-writer. The reasons for his selecting a certain kind of subject, for his treating that subject in a certain way, for his drawing or allowing his readers to draw a certain moral, can be ascertained solely by the experienced alienist, who can determine the psychological states which have produced such results and from what physical conditions these psychological states ensue. Thus, every one has observed the abundance of olfactory images in the works of Zola. The constant recurrence of these can be explained by those only who know that Zola has an unusually fine sense of smell. The way in which an author describes the physical personality of his heroes and the mode in which he makes them think and act, are questions which every critic should study, and it is the alienist alone who can determine how far these imaginary beings are reproductions of the personality of the author."

Dr. Toulouse proceeds to apply these principles to criticisms of the works of the sculptor, the painter, the actor, the musician, and, in fact, of all those whose productions deal with artistic taste. He recognizes that there are numerous cases in which a critic can not study an artist personally and determine the condition of his bile and digestive organs and nervous system. In these cases, of course, the study must be confined to the work produced. It is, however, the biologist alone who can detect the subtle relations between the work and the workman, and declare what parts of it are due to the personality of the artist and how that personality has colored the work.—*Translated for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

## ALPHONSE DAUDET.

ALPHONSE DAUDET, who died suddenly at his home in Paris December 16, was probably known and appreciated by a larger circle of American and British readers than any other French writer since Victor Hugo. There is little doubt that this remarkable popularity was due largely to his humor, which was of the American flavor. His style had an added charm, too, in its poetical vein. His first published writings were poetry, and altho he wrote no verse after he was twenty-five, he was still poetic in temper. Daudet belonged to the romantic school. Augustin Filon, writing in Charles Dudley Warner's "Library of the World's Best Literature," says of this:

"Daudet is an artist, not a scientist. He is a poet in the primitive sense of the word, or, as he styled himself in one of his books, a '*trouvère*.' He has creative power, but he has at the same time his share of the minor gift of observation. He had to write for a public of strongly realistic tendencies, who understood and desired nothing better than the faithful, accurate, and most scientific description of life. Daudet could supply the demand, but as he was not born a realist, whatever social influence he had been subjected to, he remained free from the faults and excesses of the school. He borrowed from it all that was good and sound; he accepted realism as a practical method, not as an ultimate result and a consummation. Again, he was preserved from the danger of going down too deep and too low into the unclean mysteries of modern humanity, not so much perhaps by moral delicacy as by an artistic distaste for all that is repulsive and unseemly."

Henry James wrote of him, in 1882, as follows:

"Daudet is a passionate observer—an observer not perhaps of the deepest things in life, but of the whole realm of the immediate, the expressive, the actual. This faculty, enriched by the most abundant exercise and united with the feeling of the poet who sees all the finer relations of things and never relinquishes the attempt to charm, is what we look for in the happiest novelist of our days. Ah, the things he sees—the various, fleeting, lurking, delicate, nameless, human things! This beautiful vivacity finds itself most complete in 'Les Rois en Exil,' a book that could have been produced only in one of these later years of grace. Such a book is intensely modern, and the author is in every way an essentially modern genius. With the light, warm, frank Provençal element in him, he is, in his completeness, a product

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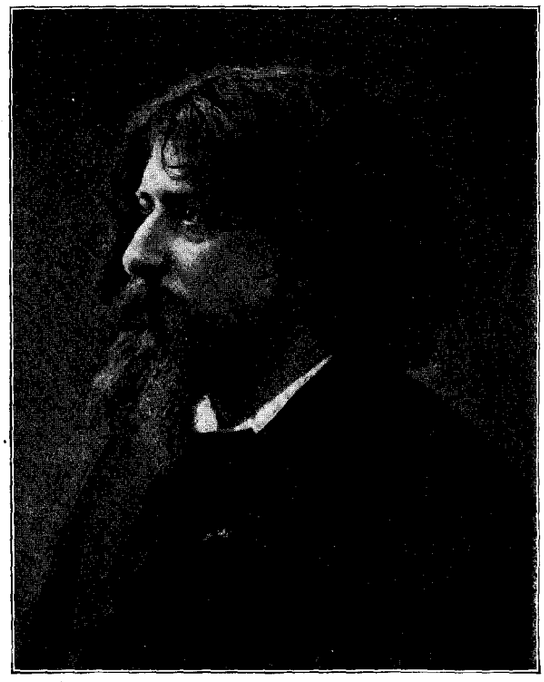
of the great French city. He has the nervous tension, the intellectual eagerness, the quick and exaggerated sensibility, the complicated, sophisticated judgment, which the friction, the contagion, the emulation, the whole spectacle, at once exciting and depressing, of our civilization at its highest, produces in susceptible natures. There are tears in his laughter, and there is a strain of laughter in his tears; and in both there is a note of music."

Daudet's obligation to Dickens has been the subject of much comment. Daudet denied that he was influenced by the English novelist, and, indeed, fought a harmless duel over the accusation. Most of his critics, however, find a resemblance, altho few of them go so far as to call it imitation. Daudet himself said of this:

"I feel in my heart Dickens's love for the lowly, for the unhappy childhood of little ones reared in the squalor and misery



ALPHONSE DAUDET.

of a great city; I too had a heartrending struggle for existence, and earned my bread before I was sixteen; therein lies, I fancy, our greatest resemblance."

The Boston *Transcript* says:

"That he was influenced by Dickens can not be denied. . . . In fact, no denials are of any avail in the face of many pages of 'Fromont Jeune et Risler Ainé,' where one sees the younger writer following the older, not blindly, but very clearly, tho he makes no sacrifice of his originality."

Daudet was not a member of the French Academy, altho often spoken of as a candidate. The Springfield *Republican* says that he refused to become a candidate for a chair in the Academy. Augustin Filon says, however, that the Academy repulsed him. His feeling toward the Academy is not in doubt, for in "L'Immortel" he satirized that dignified body so cuttingly that all his chances of becoming an "Immortal" were destroyed. The Brooklyn *Eagle* says of this:

"There is a saying in Paris that there is always a forty-first member of the French Academy—whose membership, it will be remembered, is limited to forty. By the 'forty-first' member, the wits of the capital designate the man whose commanding abilities overshadow very often those of any member of the Academy and entitle him without question to membership, but who, by reason of some personal quality, or the active jealousy of those who are among the Immortals, and who are angered at his fame, never succeeds in an election to fill a vacancy. Not in the last twenty years has France produced a man whose achievements in the world of letters gave to him a stronger title to a seat in that august body, yet Daudet was never chosen a member."

Zola was Daudet's greatest rival for the favor of the American public, altho his readers are of a different class, and it is interesting to note what Zola, who was inclined to deprecate the romantic quality, has to say of "Numa Roumestan," one of Daudet's most popular productions. Zola says of this romantic quality:

"This, moreover, is a very slight blemish in a work which I regard as one of those, of all Daudet's productions, that is most personal to himself. He has put his whole nature into it, helped by his Southern temperament, having only to make large drafts upon his most intimate recollections and sensations. I do not think that he has hitherto reached such an intensity either of irony or of geniality. . . . Happy the books which arrive in this way, at the hour of the complete maturity of a talent! They are simply the widest unfolding of an artist's nature; they have in happy equilibrium the qualities of observation and the qualities of style. For Alphonse Daudet 'Numa Roumestan' will mark this interfusion of a temperament and a subject that are made for each other, the perfect plenitude of a work which the writer exactly fills."

Daudet was born of poor parents at Nimes, a Provençal city of southeastern France, May 13, 1840. He went to Paris at the age of seventeen, with his brother, and for a time the two had a hard struggle for existence. In 1858 he brought out his first publication, a volume of poems, called "Les Amoureuses," which gave him a reputation and led to his connection with several newspapers. He soon published in *Figaro* his account of the hardships of the life of an usher in a provincial school, with the title, "Le Gueux de Provence." A second collection of poems, "La Double Conversion," followed, and in 1861 a series of papers which he contributed to *Figaro* was brought out in book form as "Le Chaperon Rouge." For five years, from 1861 to 1865, Daudet was private secretary to the Duc de Morny, president of the Corps Législatif. He wrote his "Lettres sur Paris" for *Le Petit Moniteur* in 1865, under the name of Jehan de l'Isle, and in the succeeding year his "Lettres de Mon Moulin," signed with the name Gaston Marie, were addressed to *L'Evênement*. Daudet's publications include "Le Petit Chose" (1868), "Lettres à un Absent" (1871), "Les Aventures Prodigieuses de Tartarin de Tarascon" (1872), "Les Petits Robinsons de Caves" (1872), "Contes du Lundi" (1873), "Contes et Récits" (1873) "Robert Helmont" (1874), "Les Femmes d'Artistes" (1874), "Fromont Jeune et Risler Ainé (1874), "Jack" (1876), "Le Nabab" (1877), "Les Rois en Exil" (1879), "Contes Choisis, la Fantasie et l'Histoire" (1879), "Numa Roumestan" (1881), "Les Cigognes" (1883), "L'Evangéliste" (1883), "Sappho" (1884), "Tartarin sur les Alpes" (1885), "La Belle Nivernaise" (1886), "Trente Ans de Paris" (1887), "L'Immortel" (1888), and "Port Tarascon" (1890).

## NOTES.

SOME interesting facts about Charlotte Brontë appear in *The Speaker*, from the pen of Wemyss Reid. Among other things he writes: "The world has often busied itself with the identity of Rochester in 'Jane Eyre.' Most of us remember how the critics of fifty years ago believed that Thackeray had furnished the model for that immortal character. The real original was the brother of Ellen Nussey—a West Riding merchant who had all the unpolished force and dogged egotism which sometimes marked the Yorkshire magnate in those days. Charlotte idealized him into Rochester, and planted him in the midst of circumstances of which his own life knew nothing."

Mr. Reid tells, also, the following story as told him by Miss Nussey. The latter was visiting Charlotte Brontë after her marriage to Mr. Nicholls, a clergyman.

"Charlotte and her husband went for a walk on the moors with their guest. 'Are you not going to write anything more?' asked Miss Nussey of Charlotte. 'Oh,' was the reply, 'I have got a story in my head, but Arthur does not wish me to write it. He thinks I should attend to other things now.' Then, according to her statement, Ellen Nussey waxed valiant on her friend's behalf, and contended with Mr. Nicholls against his idea that a clergyman's wife ought not to engage in literary work. 'I married Charlotte Brontë, not Currer Bell,' was the husband's rejoinder."

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## SCIENCE AND INVENTION.

### DOES ARCTIC EXPLORATION PAY?

ROBERT STEIN, of the United States Geological Survey, has a good word to say for Lieutenant Peary and of the value of Arctic exploration in general. Mr. Stein was a member of Peary's seventh expedition, his personal object being to prepare himself for the carrying out of a scheme of systematic and continuous exploration of Ellesmere Land and the study of the ancient Eskimo settlements in Hubbard Bay. He does not intend to try for the Pole, but does not hesitate to say that Peary will "almost certainly" reach the Pole in 1900. Asked about the reported dissatisfaction of some of the members of Peary's expedition with the management of their leader, Mr. Stein said (*The Voice*, New York, December 6):

"None of his critics that I know are worthy to tie his shoestrings. Certain persons try to show their strength of mind by barking at the heels of a distinguished man. To me that seems a very sorry business. To overlook the unprecedented record of seven Arctic expeditions without mishap, and to grumble about food and other trifles, seems to me to be the earmark of the incorrigible kicker. So far as I was able to observe, Mr. Peary's management was a model of foresight, readiness, energy, fairness, patience, and consideration."

Of the value of Arctic exploration, Mr. Stein had this to say:

"I can only repeat the old arguments. I find that likes and dislikes on this subject are more a matter of sentiment than of argument. The friends of polar exploration are so by instinct, and do not ask for argument; its opponents are generally encased in an argument-proof armor of prejudice. The latter generally impute to Arctic explorers as the only motive an unquenchable thirst after fame—as if that were a reproach. If material interests are to decide the matter, it must be remembered that the whaling industry has contributed over $680,000,000 to the wealth of England, Holland, and the United States. Klondike is under the Arctic circle. The whalers now caught in Alaskan ice are not blamed for thus risking their lives. But the Arctic explorer's real grounds of justification are scientific. To study the laws of magnetism, so important to navigation, we must know their operation all over the earth, especially near the magnetic poles. The same is true of winds and currents. To ascertain the size and density of the earth, the astronomer's base of measures, ten pendulum observations near the unknown end of the arc are worth a hundred elsewhere. All branches of natural history may expect new light from observations on living beings under the unique conditions of polar climate. That all our advances in material well-being are due to the progress of science, is a phrase so hackneyed that one hesitates to repeat it. If it be objected that we ought to postpone such studies till a time when they can be carried out safely and economically, the answer is that that time has arrived. Thanks to the labors of previous explorers, especially Peary, Arctic travel has been freed from most of its danger and hardship, on condition, of course, that ordinary caution be used. The main requisite is a secure base, always accessible to a supply-ship, and yet near the field of exploration."

Of the country to which Peary has been devoting especial attention, Mr. Stein observes:

"I have little doubt that Greenland will eventually become a health resort, at least in summer. Whether it be that the intense cold of winter destroys the microbes, or that the excess of ozone is fatal to them even in summer, the fact is that no zymotic diseases, such as consumption, fevers, influenza, are found there. The air is so bracing that one can do an enormous amount of work without getting tired. I repeatedly started at nine in the morning, and after the hardest climbing over the rocks would return at nine in the evening as fresh as when I started."

The big meteorite which Peary brought back on his last trip has had its genuineness called in question by Dr. Nansen, the Norwegian explorer. The following extract from *The Scientific American* indicates that the American has scored a point over the Norwegian in this matter:

"Speaking of the doubt that Nansen had thrown upon the genuineness of the meteorite which Mr. Peary recently brought from the Arctic region, the lieutenant said: 'Nansen spoke hastily on his arrival, but when he found he was wrong he frankly and courteously admitted his error. The impression has gone abroad that there is some feeling over the matter between Nansen and myself, but that is not true. I have the utmost admiration for Nansen and the magnificent work he has done.' On the afternoon of December 8 Lieutenant and Mrs. Peary paid a visit to the British Museum, where they were met by the Director Sir William Fowler and Curator Fletcher, of the Mineralogical Department. Mr. Fletcher examined a specimen of the Cape York meteorite discovered and brought to New York by Lieutenant Peary, and unhesitatingly declared it was certainly of meteoric origin. He added that no specimen in the British Museum had meteoric characteristics more sharply or more clearly shown than those of the Cape York meteorite. The opinion of Mr. Fletcher, who is an expert, has so thoroughly convinced Dr. J. Scott Keltie, secretary of the Royal Geographical Society, that it is considered by him to have settled the controversy as to the Cape York meteorite."

### MONKEY OR MAN?

THE discovery in the island of Java, in 1892, by Dr. Dubois, a Dutch army surgeon, of fossil fragments ascribed by him to a creature higher than the ape and yet lower than man, has been fully discussed in these pages at various times. At present some critics seem to be inclined to agree with the discoverer that the fossils are those of an ape-like ancestor of man, while others think they belong to an extinct species of ape, and others that they were parts of a malformed or idiotic man. In the *Revue Encyclopédique* (Paris), M. A. Cligny gives an exhaustive review of the evidence that bears on the question, together with photographs that constitute important evidence in the case. Says M. Cligny:

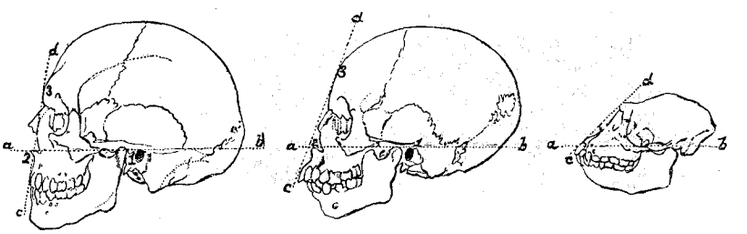

FIG. 1.—Caucasian. FIG. 2.—Negro. FIG. 3.—Ape.

(The facial angle is determined by two lines, of which one, *a b*, joins the ear and nose, and the other, *c d*, is tangent to the forehead and the front teeth.

"That we may be competent to form an opinion it is well to recall at the outset the characteristics that distinguish man from the monkey, or more simply from the higher monkeys—the anthropoids. We shall pass in silence over the psychic and physiologic divergences, which are sufficiently well known to everybody and are without interest in a case where the evidence is entirely anatomical. We shall dwell particularly on the skulls."

The chief point of differences, as brought out by M. Cligny, are the prominent face and small skull of the monkey as compared with man's smaller face and larger skull. These points are brought out by measurements of the facial angles (see Figs. 1 to 3) and of the cranial capacity. Notwithstanding these great differences, scientists have yet quarreled not only over the Java skull now under consideration, but over others. M. Cligny reminds us particularly of the remains found in the Neanderthal in 1856 (see Fig. 4). Study of this latter and of other similar remains have now, he believes, established the fact that there once existed in

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Europe a human race differing from all present races and ethnically inferior to the most degraded tribes of Africa or Australia. The Java skull apparently was that of a creature still lower in the

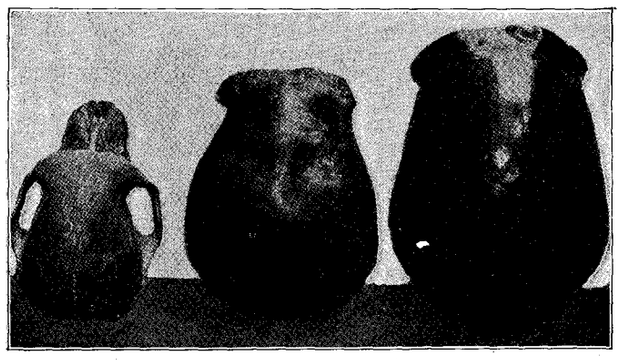


FIG. 4.

ethnical scale. Was it a monkey or a man? Says M. Cligny, summing up the evidence:

"The skull is that of a primate; no doubt on this point is possible. It was surely an adult. The skull is extraordinarily large for that of a monkey and extraordinarily small for that of a man. . . . We seem to have struck a mean between the two limits that we have drawn between ape and man. . . . . .

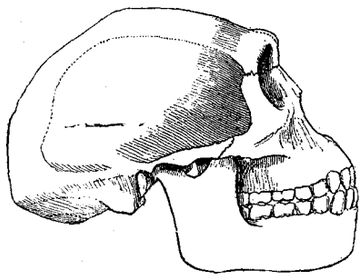


FIG. 5.—M. Manouvier's Restoration of the Java skull.

"In a word, the Java fossil resembles in form a pithecoid [ape-like] human skull, but it differs from this by the surprising intensity of its simian characteristics, especially by its height. . . . . .

"If this primate was a man, it was a man of bestial appearance; as to the cranial capacity, it obliges us to choose between three hypotheses:

"Either the pithecanthropus, to give it its name, was a creature of little height, a dwarf; . . . or it was microcephalous [small-headed], an abnormal instance of a race having the ordinary height; or it was the average type of its race."

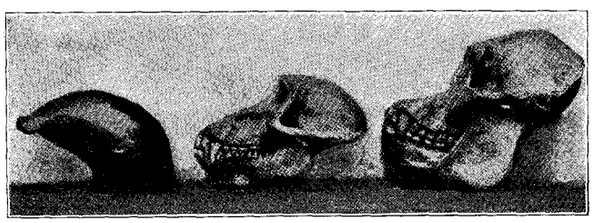
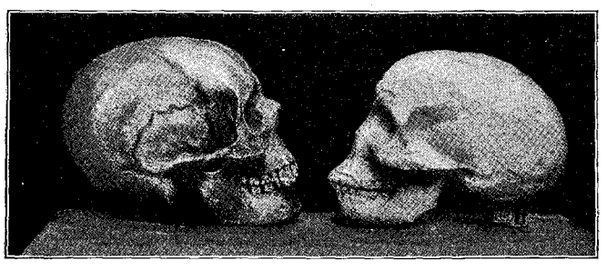


FIG. 6.—Profiles—Of the Java skull (1); a chimpanzee's skull (2); and that of an orang-utan (3).

The first hypothesis, the author points out, would force us to



Orthognathous Skull (Caucasian). Slightly Prognathous Skull (Negro).
FIG. 7.—MODERN SKULLS.

suppose that the creature was very small, for no existing dwarfs have nearly so small skulls. The second (that of malformation) is irrefutable, but Cligny regards it as unscientific to suppose that the only known specimen of the race should happen to be such a monstrosity. We are thus forced to adopt the third hypothesis—that this was the skull of a representative of a race intermediate between ape and man—in other words, the long-sought "missing link." Whether all men of science agree with him or not, the photographs with which he illustrates his points are certainly of the highest interest, and we take pleasure in reproducing them here.—*Translated for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

## ANOTHER TRANSMUTATION THEORY.

THE latest theory on the subject of the transmutation of baser into precious metals goes a little farther than any hitherto propounded. According to it, not only can silver be changed into gold, but we can not help its being so changed, for the process is going on continually. In other words, silver naturally "grows" into gold. This is the assertion of John Jacob Wagner in a pamphlet entitled "Gold Growth" (Cincinnati, 1897). Says *Science*, in describing this work:

"The basis of the author's argument is that gold in nature is always found associated with silver, and the ratio of gold to silver is not uniform. If silver never occurs without some gold, it follows that the gold has grown from the silver, and the varying proportions found in different mines are due to the length of time the growth has been going on. Hence in the older rocks the proportion of gold to silver is greater than in the later rocks. Pure gold can be separated from silver alloy; but the 'fine silver' resulting invariably contains gold. The inference is that the silver is 'growing' into gold. This pamphlet belongs to a class of writings by no means rare, the efforts of laymen to clear up facts and theories which are far from clear to specialists who have devoted their lives to them. Granted that the premises of the writer are true, his deductions would have no weight to a chemist. He finds not merely silver and gold occurring together, but many other elements always associated with each other. If gold 'grows' from silver, why not potassium from sodium, or bromin from chlorin, etc.? The only difficulty with the theory is that at present there is absolutely no evidence of facts to support it, and the wisest chemists hesitate to philosophize on the problem of the genesis of the elements.

"It may be questioned if books such as that before us have any value; certainly they have not from a scientific standpoint."

## THE PHYSIOLOGY OF HYPNOTISM.

THE subject of hypnotism, so we are told by Prof. Francis Gotch, in a lecture delivered at Magdalen College, Oxford, has been greatly cleared up by modern views of the construction of the nervous system; at least, such views assist us in forming a clearer mental picture of hypnotic processes than we were formerly able to obtain. Professor Gotch publishes his lecture in *Science Progress* (October). The successive stages of the hypnotic state are described by him. First we have the "initial sleep," which, however, we are told, is unlike ordinary sleep, since in the latter the whole nervous system is in a state of subdued activity, while in the hypnotic sleep the involuntary movements determined by the lower portions of the nervous system are exaggerated. Referring further to this difference the professor says:

"The distinction between hypnotic and ordinary sleep is further accentuated by the circumstance that the former change is one which may develop into other striking manifestations of nervous activity. If the closed eyes of a guinea-pig, appropriately hypnotized, are opened and a bright light allowed to flash upon them, the animal does not necessarily wake up and behave like a reasonable guinea-pig. Instead of doing so it may become cataleptic; all the muscles suddenly stiffen, owing to an uncontrollable rush of energy from the abnormally excitable nervous system.

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Similar phases of hypnotic existence may occur in man; the resulting muscular contractions being so pronounced that the individual may lie stiff, with merely the head and feet on two chairs, not yielding even when the stoutest member of the audience at the hypnotic *séance* is called up, and seats himself, at the request of the operator, upon the hypnotic's abdomen.

"It is interesting to note that cataleptic reflexes can be produced in response to skin stimulation in unhypnotized animals after the separation of the portions of the brain above the cerebellum and spinal cord.

"A predominant characteristic of both these phases of the hypnotic state is evidently the paralysis of volitional power, and, as the state progresses, this is succeeded by a remarkable augmentation of other nervous functions. . . . The subject does what he is commanded to do; for the nerve-processes aroused in ear and eye by the sound of the words and the gestures of the operator dominate the whole brain machinery of the subject, and a throng of impulses pour out to the appropriate muscles, without the subject being conscious of any stage in the process. It may even happen that the subject does actually remain conscious but impotent; powerless to modify the domineering activity of the nerve mechanism; his actions thus remain automatic altho consciousness is present. So, too, in ordinary sleep we may be conscious, for we may dream and often remember our dreams when we wake, and yet we have been powerless to control our actions or to modify the ideas called up by the nerve processes."

This stage the professor terms the somnambulistic stage of hypnotism. He then goes on to refer to another stage, that of hypnotic sleep:

"The physiological derangement, which is the basis of the volitional abeyance and of the exalted nervous activities just described, may, if hypnotism is profound, pass into a more widespread derangement exhibiting itself as deep hypnotic sleep. It is now associated not only with paralysis of will but with profound anesthesia, and the subject gives all the physiological evidences of lowered vitality of the whole central nervous system. If the state is prolonged it may become dangerous to life by lowering the activities of those lower centers upon the vitality of which such essential processes as respiration, etc., depend. It may, for convenience, be distinguished as the condition of lethargy and resembles that produced by chloroform inhalation."

The four states thus described—hypnotic sleep, catalepsy, somnambulism, and lethargy—Professor Gotch thinks are undoubtedly due to "an abnormal condition of the physiological activities of the central nervous system," and in order to explain what this abnormal condition is, Professor Gotch proceeds to describe what, according to the latest views of physiologists, the normal condition may be. We here quote from an abstract of the article in *The Hospital*:

"The essence of these modern views lies in the non-continuity of nervous tissue. There are gaps between the different neurons [nerve-cells with their branches], and the direction in which nervous impulses flow depends largely upon the ever-varying resistance which is offered by these gaps. That does not, perhaps, take us far; but if we recognize that all our activities are the result of a form of reflex action, inhibited or accelerated by impulses from that portion of the nervous system which are more especially connected with the consciousness, and that the nerve-processes whence the impulses by which this inhibition is maintained must 'jump the gap' are capable of fatigue, we seem to see, in a fashion, how it is possible, as the result of strained attention, to weary out the link with consciousness, and leave the body an automaton, subject to the uncontrolled dominion of reflex action and suggestion."

To go back to Professor Gotch's own words, he says that he believes that "the increased activity of all nervous processes, except those underlying volition, may be attributed to the diminished resistance of what are here termed the gaps." This resistance may be produced, "not only by the cessation of the inhibitory influences just described, but by the unrestrained and unmodified flow of such impulses as, by their play, directly diminish the gap-resistance, and thus augment the activity of lower centers." That is to say, the reins having been cut, the influence of the whip has full play.

Passing then to the part taken in hypnotism by what is known as suggestion, Professor Gotch says:

"We are aware that one idea suggests another, and that volitional movements are the outcome of such suggested ideation. The physiological basis for this is decidedly obscure, but modern neurology has comparatively recently brought into prominence one feature which is pertinent to the present inquiry. Functional activity is undoubtedly associated with structural growth, functional inactivity with actual dwindling or atrophy. It is only in the last few years that this has been extended to the processes of the central nervous system. The passage of nervous impulses across gaps is the functional activity of the terminal nerve-fiber branches; if persistently repeated these branches may be conceived as being brought into conditions favorable for their growth, tending to approach one another, thus diminishing the actual extent of the gap resistance. With opposite conditions of prolonged inactivity they may tend to recede from each other. Hence the repeated storming of the gaps by nervous impulses would diminish the extent of the gaps and thus facilitate passage across them, provided that such repeated storming is not so persistent as to cause the deleterious changes which constitute fatigue.

"The result is that a nerve change of similar type to one which has previously occurred finds its easiest path if it runs along all the old lines; every repetition thus sets up further alterations in localities which are already the seat of similar changes."

Movements may thus be evoked, says the professor, of precisely similar character to those determined by volition, altho both consciousness and volition are absent. If consciousness is present we describe the action by the term "suggested." In the hypnotic state, "suggestion" is used to denote the same state of affairs, altho both volition and consciousness are absent. Such suggestion, Professor Gotch reminds us, is not limited to the hypnotic state. How many of us, he says, thinking of something else, take out and involuntarily wind up our watches? The physician utilizes this power of suggestion when he says to his patient, "You will be better soon." The reaction of the nervous system, in consequence of the suggestion, is one of the most potent of all remedies. In hypnotism, however, suggestion becomes abnormal, and, the nervous system being deranged, the abnormal state may be started simply by arresting the subject's attention. Thus, to quote again:

"A subject may be hypnotized by a verbal command, a gesture, or a written line, even where this is to take effect the next day, or the next week; any one of these initial phases suggests the whole sequence. The hypnotization of Trilby by the picture of Svengali, described in Du Maurier's novel, is founded on fact. Further, the awakening may be achieved in a similar way by suggestion.

"It is no wonder, therefore, that such hypnotic subjects should readily respond to sensory impressions, even tho these may be far too slight to awaken consciousness in the volitional onlooker. The unconscious subject is an exquisitively sensitive machine with a nervous system tuned to react to impressions of peripheral sense organs, which, acting on the ordinary volitional mortal, awaken no consciousness, and what is more, they probably never can awaken the consciousness of such a normal individual, since unconsciousness and volitional paralysis are essential factors in making the nervous machinery sufficiently sensitive to respond to the feeble stimuli."

*The Hospital* comments on Professor Gotch's physiological explanation as follows:

"This explanation is one of the very greatest interest, and all the more so from the fact that it seems to explain on the one hand how by repetition self-control may come to be the dominant factor in a man's actions, and how, in another case, by the repeated abolition of the control of the higher centers, such as occurs in those who are again and again subjected to hypnotic influence, it may no longer be necessary to fatigue the will by concentrated attention in order to produce the hypnotic state."

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## LONGEVITY OF SEEDS.

HOW long can a seed retain life? The most extraordinary stories were once believed regarding the power of seeds to germinate centuries after the parent plant had produced them. F. Escombe, who contributes to *Science Progress* (October) an exhaustive essay on this subject, embodying the results of the latest research, tells us that such stories are unworthy of credence. Says Mr. Escombe:

"Numerous statements have been periodically made about the 'longevity' of seeds; the majority are of little value from lack of detail or of sufficient positive proof. The most notorious are those concerning seeds from sarcophagi of Egyptian mummies. It is now generally acknowledged that no adequate proof of their germination has been produced, the reputed success of some authors having been rather due to duplicity of Arab vendors than genuineness of the seeds. Burgerstein quotes experiments of Unger with indubitably genuine seeds. Corns from the ruins of Thebes were tested; not one germinated. The same result was obtained with corns out of tiles made of Nile-mud and straw from the Darfur pyramid near Kairo. There is nothing extravagant in the idea that mummy-seeds may retain potential life, but there is no proof that this is so; indeed, C. de Candolle states that the wheat was always sterilized apparently before introduction into sarcophagi, tho no authority is given for this statement.

"That the treatment of this subject is not wanting in humor is evident from that which follows: A well was once sunk in the Lias of Shipston-on-Stour; the next year *Glaucium luteum* appeared on the rubbish from the shaft. No *glaucium* had previously grown in the neighborhood. White suggests 'that they (the seeds) had possibly remained inert from the time when the deposition of the Lias took place, and upon their exposure to the atmosphere were recalled to life.' This is not only extravagant, but transcends imagination. . . . . .

"Experiments of Peter support the view that the sudden appearance of species hitherto unknown, when soil has been disturbed, is due to persistence of seeds of one vegetation dormant in the earth while later vegetations succeed, and to their subsequent germination when conditions changed. He tried to find if soil holds seeds, if it be able to preserve their 'vitality,' as well as which species have seeds capable of remaining thus unputrefied. Soils were tested on the surfaces of which vegetation had not existed for a long time; present covering with wood was disregarded, since tree-seedlings admit of easy distinction and could be eliminated. Soils were chosen concerning which it was accurately known whether considerable alteration in constitution of the vegetation had ever occurred. Samples of earth were so taken as to diminish as far as possible the chance of introduction of seeds by various agents. For collecting earth spots in dense forests devoid of vegetation were chosen, chiefly in such as were known to have formerly been fields or meadows. For comparison samples were taken from primeval forests. Layers 8 centimeters [3 inches] deep were removed; this was done twice, and sometimes thrice, at the same spot. The cultures agreed well. In every test of soil formerly field-soil, the majority of seeds that germinated, at times all, were those of field-plants. The results with earth from forests previously meadows, or perennially forests were analogous. The woods, primeval ones naturally excepted, had been planted twenty to forty-six years back; Peter concludes hence that the seeds had remained dormant, retaining 'vitality,' throughout these periods. This conclusion is as reliable as any deducible from experiments of this type, which are permeated with uncertainty. . . . . .

"Arthur states that seeds of *Pyrus coronaria* can germinate after dormancy of twenty-three years. The evidence for this is as follows: A barn was built in 1859, the foundation of which was limestone laid on soil. In 1882 the barn was removed, and after twenty days the foundation also. When the bottom stone was raised, two small plants were found near the center of the stone. He says that there seems no doubt that the seeds had been protected by the building for the twenty-three years, germination having been stimulated after removal of the barn by penetration of warmth and moisture beneath the foundation. No evidence is adduced that the seeds were not introduced by animals or otherwise, for which reason the statement is practically valueless."

After quoting a number of other recorded observations, all of which are practically of no value for the same reason as that given just above, Mr. Escombe goes on to say:

"The experiments that tend most strongly to prove 'longevity' in certain seeds are those of Girardin and of Brown. The seeds tested had in each case been part of a collection which there was every reason to suppose had not been disturbed, and the age of which was known. But there is no absolute certainty that the seeds had not been interfered with, and this doubt weakens the evidence. There is only one method for settling the question beyond contradiction; large quantities of selected seeds of many species should be collected at some recognized institute after careful previous treatment, and allowed to remain quiescent in a suitable place, to which no one could get access without being known to have done so. These seeds should be periodically tested and the results recorded. The research of Peter, altho admirably conducted, only supports strongly the idea of 'longevity' of seeds.

"That this 'longevity' is a function varying with the specie, and even individual seeds, admits of no doubt. Burgerstein found that deviations due to individual differences in seeds of cereals amounted to from 1 to 16 per cent. Moreover, the degree of maturity at harvest-time and the aqueous content at the time of preservation are factors that influence considerably the 'vitality' of seeds."

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**Artificial Black Marble.** — Louis H. Bruhl, United States Consul at Catania, Italy, reports to the State Department that the manufacture of artificial black marble is carried on by the owners of the local gas-works, who also manufacture various by-products. "In this process," says Mr. Bruhl as quoted by *The Engineering and Mining Journal*, "common white sandstone is first cut into the desired shapes; then the pieces are placed in a large iron tank, upon a heavy wire grating, the latter resting a few inches above the bottom of the tank, in order to keep the stone from touching the bottom and to permit the fluid to penetrate freely everywhere. The stones must not touch each other. Then, through an iron pipe, a molten mass of volcanic asphalt and coal-tar pitch, mixed, in equal parts, is let into the tank from an adjoining boiler until the molten mass fully covers the pieces of sandstone. This liquid is kept boiling in the tank for thirty-six hours; then the stones are taken out, placed upon a brick floor to cool off and dry, and are afterward polished in the same manner as other marble. The artificial product is said to resist acids, is not damaged by atmospheric action, moisture, heat or cold, and is claimed to be aseptic. In the same manner the firm also prepares pressed tilings for flooring, roofing, etc., which are are said to be perfectly water-tight and aseptic. A mass of sand, cement, and water, after having been thoroughly kneaded, is put into forms, put under a press, taken out and dried, and then placed in the tank-boiler for thirty-six hours, as in the manufacture of the artificial black marble, and, after being cooled off, placed in a rotary grinding or polishing machine."

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## SCIENCE BREVITIES.

A FRENCH chemist, De Hemptinne, has succeeded in showing, according to *The American Journal of Science*, December, that electrical oscillations have a marked effect in modifying chemical processes.

THE absorption of Roentgen rays by various substances has been investigated by W. J. Humphreys, of the University of Virginia, who states in *The Philosophical Magazine*, London, November, his conclusion that it depends on the atomic weight of the substance, tho not in any very simple manner.

"WHILE the use of the chestnut as an article of food is very limited in this country," says *The National Druggist*, "there are portions of Europe where the nut plays an important rôle in the diet of the poorer classes, being used as a substitute for the grains (wheat, rye, barley, etc.) in bread-making, and furnishing a very nourishing and palatable drink as well. It is also largely used as a dressing for game, meats, and fowls, among the better classes. The writer well remembers two or three repasts, or lunches, obtained at the cottages of the native mountaineers, while traveling on foot in the Apennines, in which stale chestnut bread and a cup of goat's milk furnished the sole comestibles; but, with hunger as a sauce, and the mountain air as a sharpener of the appetite, these were wonderfully satisfying. A Frenchman, M. Ballard, has recently published a study of the economic value of the chestnut in France, and from it we learn that the dry nut contains nearly as much nitrogenous matter as barley, with more fatty, but a trifle less phosphatic matter. France produces annually about 3,000,000 quintals (about 300,000 tons) of the nuts, and in times of scarcity of grain this fact must play no unimportant part in the alimentation of the masses."

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# THE RELIGIOUS WORLD.

## FICTION AND RELIGION.

REV. DAVID BEATON enters into a somewhat protracted discussion of the important question whether or not recent fiction is serving the interests of religion. Mr. Beaton has some positive views to express, but is not inclined to be dogmatic. Full recognition is given to fiction as a powerful factor on almost every side of modern civilized life, for good or for ill. People who have social, moral, or religious theories or discoveries to promulgate feel that the surest and most direct way to reach the people and make an impression is to put forth their ideas in the guise of fiction. Thus we have "Equality," "The Woman Who Did," "Marcella," and the "Story of an African Farm." But Mr. Beaton frankly admits that he has a prejudice against "a novel with a purpose" even in the hands of such masters as Hall Caine and Amelia Barr, and he does not think highly of "The Christian" nor of "The King's Highway." After speaking of "The Choir Invisible," and recent stories of Tolstoï, Hardy, and Grant Allen, Mr. Beaton says (*The Congregationalist*):

"A wholesome story of pure love between a manly fellow and a modest girl is, to my thinking, a healthier diet for the imagination of our Christian youth, and a far nobler sign of our civilization, than the hysterics of reform, the indelicacies of the woman question, and the theological gush which makes vicious characters shining saints at their last gasp. Novels of this sort, feverish, restless, gloomy, and morbid, are the Dead Sea fruit of literature. This literary pessimism is an evidence of low vitality, of want of faith, barrenness of ideas, and decadent art. As teachers of religion we have no petty one-sided interest in the novel; we do not value it as a medium of homiletical material, nor condemn it because wanting in the preachers' lessons. . . . .

"We do not ask of the novel pious instruction, but we do claim of it, as of all literature and art, 'the sense that life is good'; without this sense literature as religion is but dust and ashes."

But after all, in the opinion of our author, the outlook is far from being dark or unpromising. "There are bright spots, nay large sunlight areas of meadow, lake, and wood, in the landscape of recent fiction." Special commendation is given to Dr. S. Weir Mitchell's recent novel of Quaker life. Says Mr. Beaton:

"One rises from reading 'Hugh Wynne' with an accession of mental vitality, a larger hope, and a sweet sense of the love of life. The same perception of the moral excellence of great thoughts, even on the most humble and obscure lives, is seen in 'Through Lattice Windows.' Solomon Gill is a Christian hero because even the workhouse can not separate him from Christ, nay, not even degrade him—'The dear Lord went lower nor that to save me.' On all that rich vein of Drumtochty and Thrums gold of Maclaren's and Barrie's the thoughtful public has already set its broad seal of approval, and the characters have become our friends, while their experiences are a vital part of our religious life. The source of their power lies far back in race heritage and national character, for they picture the life of a race, furnishing that unfailing interest felt always by the common people in the tears and laughter of men of flesh and blood. It is not merely that they are racy of the soil, that the local color is correct, that humor and pathos are, as in real life, close together, and that the intellectual and moral ideas of the people are akin to the progressive thought of Europe and America; but the authors have seen that spiritual ideals of life alone dignify human nature, and thus they touched those perennial fountains of faith and hope which spring up in the bosom of man with the joy and strength of eternal life."

Our author also finds much to commend in "The Summer in Arcady," and "A Singular Life," and as for another popular work of the day, he has this to say:

"'Quo Vadis' strikes a clear, commanding note and its influence is all for the spiritual conception of life. It has done noble service already among the more thoughtful people in presenting, in such telling contrast, the hard, cruel, even fiendish spirit of pagan Rome to the grace, love, and purity of Christianity. It incidentally contrasts also the simplicity of the faith and the unselfishness of the lives of the early believers with the self-indulgence and worldly ideals of modern Christianity; but in this too it will do much good. In this age of criticism of the church and creeds, no literature is of more value than that which gives the long historical perspective of life and shows us the dark, ignoble picture of the pagan world without Christ and His church."

In conclusion Mr. Beaton says:

"The trend of recent fiction shows clearly that the problems of the age, in spite of the discoveries of science and the exaltation of material comfort, are all spiritual; and there is a growing conviction that they must be spiritually solved. But the best service of recent fiction is the creation of a few splendid characters, who must long remain a spiritual heritage of the race, such as Marget, the sainted mother; Dr. Maclure, the hero; Lady Maxwell, the calm, sufficient worker; Leeby, the devoted sister and delightful gossip; Jack Warder, the trusty and tender friend; and Hope Langham, the sweet and sympathetic ladylove; for, after all, it is the physical and spiritual sanity of such genuine creations that permanently influence the religious life of the people."

## VIVEKANANDA'S RETURN TO INDIA.

THE Swami Vivekananda's return to India, which we have already noted (LITERARY DIGEST, December 11), seems to have been attended with a degree of interest in that country which no political event, even the most important, would have excited. His tour through India was marked by a series of great ovations on the part of the Hindu population and a number of eloquent and plain-spoken addresses on his part. These addresses have been issued in book form and sent to America under the title, "From Colombo to Almora."

Peculiar interest attaches to these lectures for more than one reason. This Swami had brought back a distinctly Western manner of talking to his people. In India all instruction is given in the form of questions and answers, the instructor occupying a seat in the midst of the people. But here was a returned native who had learned in the West to stand up before the people and deliver a moving oration, with something of the fire and vehemence of some great Western politician.

To show how completely absorbed in religion the Hindus are, the whole of India's 300,000,000 population, very many of them illiterate, seem to have known of Vivekananda's mission to Chicago to attend the World's Parliament of Religions. From the way even the coolies came to hear him, it seems to have been a subject of daily conversation throughout India, and in the addresses of welcome to him from the different towns and cities on his journey, his mission to the West was mentioned with great pride and patriotism. It was manifested that the Hindus had become conscious that the West is ready to hear what they had to say on religion, and Vivekananda himself emphasized this idea throughout his addresses. He noted the fact that while such an event as the war between China and Japan was news to the people, scarcely any of them ever having so much as heard of it, yet they all knew that there was a Parliament of Religions in America, and that one of their own sannyasin had attended it and made a favorable impression in the West.

"Go to an American plowman," says Vivekananda, "and ask him his religion. He will tell you he goes to church, but doesn't know anything about religion. Ask him about politics, and he will talk with you for hours about Democracy and Republicanism and silver. Go to an Indian plowman, ask him for his politics, and he will tell you he does not know anything about it; he pays his taxes. But you mention religion to him, and his countenance will light up and his being will become vibrant with the expression of the most profound philosophical and religious ideas."

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"Look here, my friend," says the Hindu, "I have marked my religion on my forehead." "That," says the Swami, "is our nation's life." And he continues:

"To-day I stand here with the conviction of truth, if there is any land on this earth that can lay claim to be the blessed land to which all souls on this earth must come to account for *Karma*, the land where every soul wending its way Godward must come to attain its last home, that land where humanity has attained its highest toward gentleness, toward generosity, toward purity, toward calmness, the land above all of introspection and of spirituality, it is India. Hence have started the founders of religions of most ancient times, deluging the earth again and again with the pure and perennial waters of spiritual truth. Hence have proceeded the tidal waves of philosophy that have covered the earth, east or west, north or south, and hence again must start the wave that is going to spiritualize the material civilization of the world. Here is the life-giving water with which must be quenched the burning fires of materialism burning the core of the hearts of millions in other lands. Believe me, my friends, this is going to be. . . . . .

"The debt which the world owes to this our motherland is immense. Taking country for country, there is not one race on this earth to which the world owes so much as to the patient Hindu, the mild Hindu. In ancient or modern times seeds of great truth and power have been cast abroad by advancing tides of national life; but mark, my friends, it has always been with the blast of war-trumpets and with the march of embattled cohorts. Each idea had to be soaked in deluges of blood; each idea had to advance on the blood of millions of our fellow beings; each word of power had to be followed by groans of millions, by the wails of orphans, by the tears of widows."

And he adds that from the gloom of that intense past until now, ideas after ideas have marched out from India, "but every word has been spoken with blessing behind it and peace before it; we of all nations of the world have never been a conquering race. And that blessing is on our head; therefore we live." We quote further:

"The same laws are here, laws adjusted, thought out through thousands and thousands of years, customs the outcome of the acumen of ages and the experience of centuries that seemed to be eternal; and as the days go by, as blow upon blow of misfortune has been delivered upon them, they seem to have served our purpose, making them stronger and more constant. And to find the center of all that, the heart from which the blood flows, the mainspring of the national life, believe me, after my little experience of the world, it is here. To other nations of the world religion is one among the many occupations of life. There is politics, there are enjoyments of social life, there is all that wealth can buy or power can bring, there is all that the senses can enjoy; and among all these various occupations of life and all this searching after something, something which can give a little more whetting to the cloyed senses—among all these there is a little bit of religion. But here in India religion is the one and only occupation of life."

Vivekananda quotes Schopenhauer's splendid tribute to the Upanishads, a part of the Hindu Scriptures. Schopenhauer, in speaking of these writings and their future influence, said: "The world is about to see a revolution in thought more extensive and more powerful than that which was witnessed by the Renaissance of Greek literature." And, Vivekananda says: "To-day his prediction is coming to pass. Those who keep their eyes open, those who understand the workings in the minds of the different nations of the West, those who are thinkers and study the different nations, will find the immense change that has been produced in the tone, the precedure, in the methods and in the literature of the world, by this slow, never-ceasing permeation of Indian thought."

He reminds his people of the well-known fascination of Indian thought to all outsiders, after they have become familiar with it. He proceeds then to discuss the religious conditions of the West:

"Once more history is going to repeat itself, for to-day, under the blasting light of modern science, when old and apparently strong and invulnerable beliefs have been shattered to their very foundations, when special claims laid upon the allegiance of mankind by the different sects have been all blown into atoms and have vanished into air, when the sledge-hammer blows of modern antiquarian research are pulverizing like masses of porcelain all sorts of antiquated orthodoxies, when religion in the West is only in the hands of the ignorant, and the knowing ones look down with scorn upon anything belonging to religion, here comes the philosophy of India."

But he expects other nations to receive only the background, the principles, the foundation upon which that religion is built. He denies that India's social customs rightly belong to that religion. But in India and in India alone man did not stand up and fight for a little tribe God. "My God is true and yours is not true; let us have a good fight over it." It was only here that such ideas did not have fruition. But in the growth and development of religion among all the other races, each tribe at the beginning had a god of its own. Baal represented the Babylonians, and Moloch the Jews; but all these gods had to be decided on by battle. In India the people were confronted with this same conflict of who should be their chief god, when, fortunately for her and now for the world, out of the din and confusion was heard the voice which declared: "*Ekamsat vipra bahundha vadanti*" (He is One whom the sages declared by various names). "The whole history of India you may read in these few words." This central doctrine was repeated till it entered the blood of the people. And this is the explanation of the numerous sects, apparently hopelessly contradictory, living with each other in harmony. This, above all, is what India has to teach the world. "Even the most educated of the other countries tuck up their noses at an angle of 45° and call our religion idolatry, and they never stop to think what a mass of superstition there is in their own heads. There is tremendous religious persecution yet in every country in which I have been, and the same old objections are raised against learning anything new." All the little toleration that is in the world practically is in the land of the Aryans and nowhere else. It is here that Indians come and build temples for Mohammedans and Christians, and nowhere else. In other countries each sect is ready to pull the other's temple down. This is the great lesson that the world wants most and has yet to learn from India:

"This, then, this spirituality, is what you have to teach the world. Have we got to learn anything else, have we to learn anything from the world? We have perhaps a little in material knowledge, in the power of organization, in the ability to handle powers, organizing powers and bringing the best results out of the smallest causes. This perhaps to a certain extent we may learn from the West, and so long as all men in a country can not give up entirely, altho that is our ideal, if any one in India preaches the ideal of eating and drinking and making merry, if any one wants to apotheosize the material world into 'God for India,' that man is a liar; he has no place in this holy land, the Indian mind does not want to hear him. Ay, in spite of the sparkle and glitter of Western civilization, in spite of all its polish and marvelous manifestations of power, I tell them, standing upon this platform, to their teeth, it is all vain. It is vanity of vanities. God alone lives. The soul alone lives. Spirituality alone lives. Hold on to that; yet some sort of materialism toned down to our own use perhaps would be a blessing to many of our brothers who are not yet ripe for the higher truths. This is the one mistake made in every country and in every society. And it is a greatly regrettable thing that in India, where it was always understood, the same mistake, of late, has been made."

"Another mistake," the speaker continued, "is this: What is my method need not be yours. The sannyasin, as you all know, is the ideal of the Hindu's life. Every Hindu who has tasted the fruits of this world must give up in the latter part of his life. We know this is the ideal, to give up after seeing and experiencing the vanity of things. . . . But they require a certain amount of experience, of enjoyment, to see through the vanity of it and then renunciation will come to them." "But unfortunately, in

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these later times, there is a tendency to bind every one down by the same laws as those by which the sannyasi is bound, and that is a great mistake. A good deal of the poverty and misery you see in India need not be but for that. A poor man's life is hemmed in and bound down by tremendous spiritual and ethical laws." "Let the poor fellow enjoy a little, . . . and then renunciation will come. In this line, gentlemen, perhaps we can learn something from the Western people; but we must be very cautious in learning these things." "Of these I vote for the old orthodox and not for the Europeanized system; for the old orthodox man may be ignorant, he may be crude, but he is a man, he has faith, he has strength, he stands on his own feet, while the Europeanized man has no backbone. . . . Why are some of our customs called evils? Because the Europeans say so. That is about the reason he gives."

Vivekananda asks his people why there are 3,000,000 Mohammedans and 1,000,000 Christians in India, and why the complaint is made nowadays that European materialism has wellnigh swamped them. It is not at all the fault of Europeans, he tells his people, but mainly their own. He continues:

"And yet there is time. Give up all these old discussions, old fights about things which are meaningless, which are nonsensical in their very nature. Think of the last six hundred or seven hundred years of degradation, when grown-up men by hundreds have been discussing whether we should drink a glass of water with the right hand or the left, whether the hand should be washed three times or four times, whether five times we should gurgle or six times. What can you expect from men who pass their lives in discussing such momentous questions as these! . . . There is danger of our religion getting into the kitchen. We are neither Vedantists, most of us now, nor Pauranics, nor Tantries. We are just 'Don't-touchists.' Our religion is the kitchen. Our God is the cooking-pot, and our religion is 'Don't touch me, I am holy!' . . . This has first to be thrown overboard and you must stand up, be active and strong, and then there is yet an infinite treasure, the treasure our forefathers have left for you, a treasure that the whole world requires to-day. The world will die if this treasure is not distributed."

Vivekananda has little faith in the permanency and universality of Christianity. He says:

"You have also heard, quite within recent times, claims put forward by a great friend of mine, Dr. Barrows, that Christianity is the only universal religion. Let me consider this question awhile and lay before you my reasons why I think it is the Vedanta, and the Vedanta alone, that can become the universal religion of man, and that none else is fitted for that rôle. Excepting our own, almost all the other great religions of the world are inevitably connected with the life or lives of one or more founders. All their theories, their teachings, their doctrines, and their ethics are built around the life of a personal founder, from whom they get their sanction, their authority, and their power; and, strangely enough, upon the historicality of the founder's life is built, as it were, all the fabric of such religions. If there is one blow dealt to the historicality of that life, as has been the case in modern times with the lives of almost all the so-called founders of religion—we know that half the details of such lives is not now seriously believed in, and that the other half is seriously doubted—if this becomes the case, if that rock of historicality, as they intend to call it, is shaken and shivered, the whole building tumbles down, broken absolutely, never to regain its lost status. Every one of the great religions in the world excepting our own is built upon such historical characters; but ours rest upon principles. There is no man or woman who can claim to have created the *Vedas*. They are the embodiment of eternal principles; sages discovered them; and now and then the names of these sages are mentioned, just their names; we do not even know who or what they were. . . . . .

"The second claim of the Vedanta upon the attention of the world is that, of all the Scriptures in the world, it is the one Scripture the teaching of which is in entire harmony with the results that have been attained by the modern scientific investigation of external nature. . . . I have myself been told by some of the best scientific minds in the West how wonderfully rational the conclusions of the Vedanta are. I know one of them personally who scarcely had time to eat his meals or to go out of his laboratory, and who yet would stand by the hour to attend my lectures on the *Vedanta*, for, as he expresses it, they are so scientific, they so exactly harmonize with the aspirations of the age and with the conclusions which modern science is coming to at the present time. . . . I need not tell you to-day, men from this Madras University, how the modern researches of Europe have demonstrated through physical means the oneness and the solidarity of the whole universe, how, physically speaking, you and I, the sun and the moon and the stars, are but little waves or wavelets in the midst of an infinite ocean of matter, and how Indian psychology has demonstrated ages ago that, similarly, both body and mind are mere names or little wavelets in the ocean of matter. . . . And going behind the idea of the unity of the whole show, the real soul is also one. There is but one soul throughout the universe. . . . That makes us all brothers in fact as well as in name."

Vivekananda expresses himself orthodoxically on the subject of idolatry. He says that it is condemned, but nobody knows why. The only reason, he says, is because, some hundreds of years ago, some man of Jewish blood happened to condemn it, that is, happened to condemn everybody else's idols except his own. He continues:

"'If God is represented in beautiful form or any symbolic form,' said the Jew, 'it is awfully bad; it is sin.' But if he is represented in the form of a chest, with two angels sitting on each side and a cloud hanging over it, it is the Holy of Holies. If God comes in the form of a dove it is the Holy of Holies. But if he comes in the form of a cow, it is heathen superstition; condemn it. That is how the world goes."

## HOW TO BREAK THE POWER OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH.

THE Center Party, that strongest and best disciplined of parties in the German Parliament, which enables the seventeen million Catholics to exercise more influence than the thirty-two million Protestants, and compels the German Government to treat the Roman Catholic Church and the Pope as an international power, is continually agitating for the reintroduction of the Jesuits and the extension of separate schools. The Protestant parties, that do not underrate the power of the church, refuse to grant concessions, even if the help of the Center is needed sorely for political purposes. It is therefore all the more remarkable that a recent convert to Protestantism, who claims that he left the Roman Catholic Church solely because her rules do not permit patriotism, advises the Government to accede to the most important demands of the church. Graf Hoensbruch, the ex-Jesuit Superior, believes that liberty will destroy the power of the church. In his book "Der Ultramontanismus," reviewed by Prof. Hans Delbrück in the *Preussische Jahrbücher*, the Bavarian aristocrat expresses himself to the following effect:

What is often forgotten, but should never be lost sight of, is that the church claims authority so absolute that no state could remain independent, no legislation could be valid, if the church had the power to enforce her demands. Graf Hoensbruch has filled his book with many *verbatim* extracts from the Pope's sayings to prove this conclusively. Luckily, practise is far from precept in this case, and the church is forced to permit all sorts of "heresies" in its supporters. Peter Reichensperger and Graf Landsberg-Vehlen do not know what papal condemnation of civil laws really means; Windhorst does not know that he utters a most grave heresy by calling a Protestant organization a "sister church"; Freiherr v. Loë does not know that the church to this day threatens all "heretics" with rigorous punishment, including the most cruel death; Dr. Dittrich does not know that the church claims absolute control over all schools; Chaplain Dasbach does not know that the church still reserves to itself the right to dethrone all princes. Rome winks at all these "heresies" in her children; but put Rome in power, and she will soon prove that

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she has not given up one iota of her claims, and that her adherents are allowed to deny these claims only under special dispensation. The day will come, sooner or later, when the church must throw off her mask, and when her power will have grown much greater than that of Socialism—unless something is done to cripple the church.

To fight the church successfully, a system is needed. This system should be based upon two important aims: undermining the social position of the priesthood, and their education. The state should cease to recognize rank in the clergy, to confer honors upon the Pope, to accept from him or to give him decorations, orders, titles, etc., nor should the Pope ever be asked to act as arbitrator in any international affair. He is a private individual, and should be treated as such. But the most effective way to combat the clergy is to let them have their own way in the matter of education of their own members.

Why is it that the Roman Catholic clergy have so remarkably little influence over the population at large in France, Italy, Spain, or Portugal? It is their isolated education. In Germany Catholic theologians are made to visit the colleges (gymnasia) and to obtain benefits of the education given to others. Tho they are afterward, at the university, secluded very much, a great many outside connections that have been formed remain. In the Latin countries the young priest lives in seminaries from a tender age, he loses all touch with the outer world, and does not learn to handle it. Germany, with her compulsory education, forges herself the weapons which are turned against her. We must give up the idea that the Catholic clergy can ever be educated as patriotic men. We must hand them over freely to their bishops. This may breed fanatics—perhaps; but it will breed priests who will not be in touch with the people and can not influence them. Besides, it will be exactly what the Catholic Church has wished for all this time.

Professor Delbrück adds to this:

"Graf Hoensbroech's argument seems reasonable enough. Catholics themselves acknowledge the inferiority of their education, even to-day. A Catholic paper only recently admitted that it is an advantage to be a Catholic if one is looking for a position under the Government; but the Catholics as a whole do not profit by this, as there are not enough academically trained men among them to compete with Protestants. In the Bavarian Reichsrath, the Government, being questioned why so comparatively few Catholics receive professorships, had to admit that there are not enough Catholic men of learning to go around. Let us, therefore, leave the Catholics in their intellectual poverty, and our people's instincts will lead them to rebel against the rule of the priest. The paucity of 'Catholic science' is already so great that it can not even bring forth fruit in theology. It is continually at war with natural science. In the department of history it is compelled to fall back upon lawyer's tricks, holy waters, miracles, etc. As regards philosophy, I was, even as long as twenty-five years ago, examined by a Catholic man of learning who proved the infallibility of the Pope on metaphysical grounds!

"A few names still bridge the chasm between science and Catholic science: Willmann, Denifle, Pasteur. It can not hurt us if the bridge vanishes altogether. In science as well as in religion the saying holds good that God may not be mocked. The curse which the Roman Church took upon herself when she forced Galileo to recant, still rests upon her and will never be removed from her."—*Translations made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

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**Minor Hindu Deities.**—"The godlings or inferior deities commonly worshiped by the masses of the Hindus, and described in Mr. W. Crooke's book on the 'Popular Religion and Folklore of Northern India,' are of very different character from the exalted conceptions of divinity described in the Vedas and known to the select among high-caste Brahmans," says *Appleton's Popular Science Monthly*, December. "They are very numerous, and are described under the five headings of the godlings of nature, heroic and village godlings, the godlings of disease, the sainted dead, and the malevolent dead. The godlings of nature include the sun, the moon, the demon of the moon's eclipse, the rainbow, the Milky Way—known also as the pathway of the snake or the course of the heavenly Ganges—Mother Earth, thunder and lightning, the sacred junctions of rivers, sacred wells and lakes, hot springs, waterfalls, sacred mountains, hail and whirlwind, aerolites, etc. The great rivers, especially the Jumna and the Ganges, stand very high in the list of benevolent nature godlings. The heroic village godlings form a numerous class; and there seems to be confusion between some of them and some Mohammedan saints in high repute. The current from a ventilator placed at the tomb of one of these saints to furnish fresh air to the pilgrims was believed by them to be his holy breath, and they went round to worship it. The godlings of disease are mostly goddesses, and are forms of Kali, the goddess of death. There is a goddess of cholera, and one of smallpox, but none of the plague; whence it is inferred that that disease is new to India. The belief in the good luck of horseshoes is common in India, and so is the custom of throwing rice after brides."

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## WHAT CAN A CATHOLIC READ?

THE General Decrees of the Roman Catholic Church condemn the reading of the following four classes of books:

"1. All books condemned before the year 1600, either by the sovereign pontiffs or ecumenical councils, and not mentioned in the new Index [to be published hereafter], are to be considered as condemned in the same manner as formerly, excepting such as are permitted by these General Decrees.

"2. Books of apostates, heretics, schismatics, and all writers whatsoever which champion the cause of error, or which in any way undermine the foundations of religion, are absolutely forbidden.

"3. Books of non-Catholics, treating *ex professo* of religion, are likewise forbidden, unless it is certain that they contain nothing contrary to Catholic faith.

"4. Books of the aforesaid authors which do not treat *ex professo* of religion, but touch only, in passing, upon truths of faith, are not to be considered as forbidden by ecclesiastical law until they are condemned by a special decree."

Formerly all books written by heretics were condemned, whether dealing professedly with religion or not. The fourth rule above specifically repeals the old law, and leaves a certain latitude of choice among non-Catholic writers. In the leading article of *The American Catholic Quarterly Review* (October), R. J. M. reviews the general character of English literature, in its relation to Roman Catholics, and endeavors to answer in some measure the question in our title. At the outset, R. J. M. points out that, in a certain sense, the English language and the English literature are anti-Catholic. He says:

"The Protestant character of the language shows itself both negatively and positively. Negatively it shows itself in the absence of appropriate words to express, with precision, the ideas that we mean to convey, when writing on Catholic subjects. A language, like a people, is not Christianized or Catholicized at once. Only after a long and gradual absorption and assimilation of Catholic thought is it fully adapted and consecrated to the service of God and of the church. How slow and tedious this process is will be readily understood by any one who reflects how many centuries it took before Latin became, in the hands of the fathers and theologians of the church, the vehicle that it now is of Catholic doctrine and devotion. The same thing may be said of English; our philosophical and ascetical writers have only just begun to build up a terminology which is both English and Catholic."

Positively, the Protestant character of the language appears in the presence of many words, such as "Romanist" and "Papist," designedly offensive to Catholic feeling. What is true of the English language is still truer of English literature. Cardinal Newman is quoted:

"We [Catholics] are but a portion of the vast English-speaking, world-wide race, and are but striving to create a current in the direction of Catholic truth when the waters are rapidly flowing the other way. In no case can we, strictly speaking, form an English literature; for by the literature of a nation is meant its classics, and its classics have been given to England, and have been recognized as such long since. . . . We must take things as they are, if we take them at all. . . . We Catholics, without consciousness and without offense, are ever repeating the half-sentences of dissolute playwriters and heretical partizans and preachers. So tyrannous is the literature of a nation; it is too much for us."

*The Quarterly Review* writer goes on to comment on this:

"An ancient general is said to have conquered and almost annihilated a nation by poisoning the wells and water-courses of

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the country; so that, while the men fell upon the battle-field, the women and children wasted away with disease in their homes. In civilized warfare such a practise has long since been abandoned. But in English literature it has been systematically pursued up to a recent date. From the very beginning of the so-called Reformation, the English press and pulpit became the ready tools of royalty, and overflowed with falsehood, calumny, and ridicule of everything that was most sacred to Catholics. They represented belief in the papal supremacy as treason to the country, construed recusancy into idolatry, and spiced their denunciations with blasphemous attacks upon the doctrine of transsubstantiation, the 'worship' of the saints, the 'adoration' of relics and images, the sale of indulgences carried on by the 'Popish' priests, and the license to commit sin granted by the 'Romish' Church. Meanwhile Catholic works were excluded from the English realm by royal order. An especial license of the pseudo-Archbishop of Canterbury was necessary in order to import any 'Popish book or pamphlet published beyond the seas'; and such license was granted 'upon this condition only, that any of them be not dispersed or showed abroad, but first brought to him [the intruded archbishop] or to some of . . . [the] privy council, that so they may be delivered, or directed to be delivered, forth unto such persons only as by them or some of them shall be thought most meet persons, upon good considerations and purposes, to have the reading of them.'

"In this manner English literature, during the period of its formation and development, was placed under exclusively Protestant influence. The 'well of English undefiled' was poisoned, and its waters have come down to us impregnated with Protestant thought, Protestant views, and Protestant principles of action. History, works of general information and education, philosophy and physical science, light literature and the newspaper, have all been enlisted in the service of error, and made to do battle against the church."

The writer then proceeds to a more specific examination of the classes of literature enumerated in the last sentence of the above quotation. He finds a great improvement of late years, from the Catholic point of view, in history, works of general information, and the press (of America), but in the realms of natural science and philosophy, especially as taught in our high schools and colleges, and in our light literature (fiction and works of travel), the anti-Catholic bias is "as strong and unreasonable as ever." Among the works of various kinds cited as illustrative of this bias, in greater or less degree, are the works of Hume and Gibbon, Hallam's "Constitutional History," Dissraeli's "Curiosities of Literature," "Chambers's Encyclopedia," the "British Encyclopedia," Campbell's "Rhetoric," Whately's "Rhetoric" and "Logic," Blackstone's "Commentaries," the historical compendiums of Myers and Freeman, Coffin's "Story of Liberty," Draper's "Conflict Between Religion and Science," Andrew White's "Warfare of Science and Theology," the philosophy of Locke, Hume, Berkeley, Kant, Fichte, Hegel, Schelling, and Schopenhauer, the novels of Charles Dickens, and, among "nominally Catholic" novels, those of Marion Crawford.

Of the improvement in history, the writer speaks as follows:

"Since the state archives have been thrown open and state papers have become public property, history is being rewritten, and the unjust verdict of the past is being reversed. German Protestant historians like Hurter, whose researches led him into the bosom of the Catholic Church, Voigt, and others, gave the death-blow to romancing in history. A German Protestant historian has vindicated the church in the Galileo question, and an English clergyman of the Established Church has painted the characters of Henry VIII. and Elizabeth in darker colors than Catholic writers had ventured to do. But even before their day our own Catholic Lingard had led the way and partly disarmed prejudice by his publication of original documents. Within the last few years the learned Catholic historian, Janssen, and his continuator, Dr. Pastor, have shaken Protestantism, and especially Lutheranism, to its foundations in its very stronghold, by bringing to light the hidden things of darkness, hitherto carefully kept from the public gaze. In brief, the new critical school of historians, who are ransacking all the libraries and archives of Europe in search of original manuscripts, comparing texts, weighing authorities, and sifting evidence, has already rendered great service to Catholic truth, and the probability is that it will render still greater service in future. Who now would picture the Middle Ages as an unbroken night of ignorance and corruption? Who would represent the 'Sicilian Vespers' and 'St. Bartholomew's Day' as instances of wholesale butchery instigated by the sanguinary policy of Rome? Who would refer to the Inquisition as to a 'tribunal of horrors,' in which the cruel church authorities condemned and wantonly tortured innocent men for maintaining their right to worship God according to the dictates of conscience? Who would write a book on the 'Alliance of Popery and Heathenism,' or on the 'Apostasy of the Pope, the Man of Sin and the Child of Perdition'? Who would call the Popes 'pageants or monsters that commonly owed their rise or downfall to crime,' or represent St. Gregory VII. as the heartless Hildebrand, who made a great emperor go to Canossa and shiver in the cold of winter, for courageously defending his civil independence? Who would describe Henry VIII. as the 'bluff and honest Hal,' or Queen Elizabeth as the 'good Virgin-Queen Bess,' or Mary Tudor as 'Bloody Mary,' or Mary Queen of Scots as a 'fiend in human flesh'? None but history-mongers, who make up by unblushing effrontery for want of research, and by a flippant style for want of fairness."

In answer to the question, what are Catholic readers to do, since so much of English literature is at variance with their religion, the writer says that they can not confine themselves to translations from the French, Italian, and German, for in that case they would fare no better and might fare worse; they can not refrain from reading anything but a few pious ascetical works, for it is their duty not to be outdone by Protestants in the acquisition of information. What they are to do is first to ground themselves, by the study of Catholic authors, such as Newman and Brownson, in Catholic thought and history so that they can detect the true from the false whenever they are encountered:

"We say, therefore, in the first place, that we should cultivate Catholic instincts and Catholic habits of thought, which will enable us to discern almost spontaneously what is conformably or opposed to the spirit of the church, to the dogmas of Catholic faith and the laws of Catholic morality. We say, in the second place, that from the mass of non-Catholic publications we should select the least objectionable, and read even these with much caution and discernment."

## RELIGIOUS NOTES.

A NEWS item in the New York *Tribune* tells of a traveling Georgia evangelist who is engaged in the conversion of sinners to a new faith, the outward manifestation of which is laughter. His devotees are called the Holy Laughers.

*The Christian Register* (Unitarian, Boston) has secured an endowment of $50,000, and Rev. George Batchelor has resigned the secretaryship of the Unitarian Association in order to accept the position of editor, succeeding Rev. Samuel J. Barrows. The latter resigned when he was elected to Congress a year ago.

POPE LEO XIII. has expressed his desire that the whole Roman Catholic world should celebrate the close of the nineteenth century with thanksgiving and prayer. It is proposed in accordance with this idea to inaugurate a great spiritual retreat, a religious awakening or revival, to continue through the entire period of the year 1899.

A WRITER in *The Outlook* protests against the multiplication of appeals to churches to set apart special days for the observation of special causes. "If all the Sundays asked for by the various societies were set apart by the churches," it is said, "there would be few if any Sundays left for the regular preaching of the Gospel. Is it not time that the asking for special Sundays for special causes was entirely given up? Let the various societies in which all Christian people are interested present their claims and leave to the local churches the question of determining the times and the seasons."

THE late Dean Vaughan of the English Church prefaced his will with these words: "In the prospect of death, a little nearer or further off, I wish to state explicitly that I have put my whole trust in the revelation of the Gospel as made in the Gospel of St. John and in the Epistles of St. John and St. Paul. I believe in the forgiveness of sins as the foundation-stone of the Gospel, and commit myself humbly and hopefully to God in this faith, for life, death, and eternity," and the will ends: "And it is my special desire that no memoir or other permanent record of my life be either printed or published. I desire no other memorial than the kind thoughts of my former pupils at Harrow, Doncaster, the Temple, and Llandaff."

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# FOREIGN TOPICS.

## GENERAL WEYLER'S POLITICAL FUTURE.

THERE has been a great deal of speculation regarding the future of the ex-Governor-General of Cuba, General Weyler. He has been accused of revolutionary tendencies, and even his most loyal remarks have been dissected in the hope of discovering some reason for an attack upon his character. So far these endeavors have been unsuccessful, but there is no doubt that many dissatisfied parties and factions would gladly avail themselves of his popularity, prestige, and knowledge, in order to overthrow the Liberal *régime* in Spain. Especially do the Carlists make advances to him. *The Post*, Munich, sketches the situation as follows:

"The Carlists are moving, and only waiting for a favorable chance to rebel. All those who, under the Conservative *régime*, could plunder the colonies without hindrance, now turn to the Carlists and already regard Weyler as their leader. But it is doubtful that he will prove himself a capable leader. Carlism aims at the reestablishment of the narrow, Catholic rule of the Bourbons, and all the plunderers of the country support it. If the Government is strong enough, Weyler will be treated as a common criminal; but is it strong enough? It would not be the first time that Spain would be under the rule of a military dictator, if the Carlists win the day. The Republican elements should therefore hasten to disarm the generals who may be planning a *coup d'état*, else the most brutal reaction will triumph."

The *Correo Español*, Barcelona, thinks the Carlists are the only party with whom he can wish to ally himself, considering the treatment accorded him by the present Government. It says:

"General Weyler is at least a firm friend of the church, the ecclesiastical orders, and Catholic influence in the Philippines. It is due to his influence that the beneficial work of the monks in that distant colony has not been destroyed. General Weyler can not ally himself with the Liberals or the Conservatives of Silvela's following. Will he be with us? Well, we flatter no one and run after no one. We are too strong to beg for anybody's support. General Weyler knows well enough that all parties seek his support, and that we only do not need it. Carlism is an immense power in the nation, and General Weyler does not care about weak things, for he is himself a strong character."

The *Imparcial*, Madrid, wishes the Government had been a little more energetic in its treatment of Weyler, whom it regards as a kind of Spanish Boulanger. It fears also that people abroad may fancy that Cuban autonomy is very weakly supported in Spain. The *Independance Belge*, Brussels, thinks this fear is not altogether unfounded. It adds:

"The truth is that few people in Spain are as yet convinced that it is necessary to abandon the ancient *régime* in Cuba. The Spaniards fear that the competition of the United States and other countries will not permit them to retain the lion's share of Cuban trade if the Cubans are allowed to make their own tariffs. It is upon this ground that General Weyler and the opposition unite against the Government. Considering the delicate relations between Spain and the United States, this is much to be deplored."

The *Journal des Débats*, Paris, believes it is too early to accuse General Weyler of revolutionary intentions. That paper says:

"We must distinguish between the general and the many malcontents who seek to exploit his popularity in their own interest. So far the general's attitude has been correct enough. He was sent to Cuba to combat the insurrection with the utmost rigor by a Government which would not hear of autonomy. He has been recalled by a Government which entertains entirely different views. He is bitterly attacked for doing his duty, and can not be blamed for defending himself. No doubt he will play a part in Spanish politics, like other Spanish generals, and his sympathies are probably with the Conservatives, who sent him to Cuba. But there is no reason to suppose that he meditates anything illegal. His expressions so far have been perfectly loyal."

*The Speaker*, London, also thinks that Weyler, if he espouses any party, will go with the Conservatives. Commenting upon the fact that the general disembarked at Barcelona upon his return home, and that Barcelona is the principal outlet of Spanish trade with Cuba, the paper continues:

"Indeed, the trade of Barcelona with Cuba is stated to exceed five millions sterling in annual value; but it is certain that, if the Cubans can so adjust their customs duties as to buy where they please, they will buy chiefly in the United States. General Weyler, therefore, is coming forward as the vehement opponent of Cuban autonomy in the interest of Spanish trade and industry; and his aim is to reorganize the Conservative Party round a nucleus composed of himself and its other irreconcilable elements, with M. Romero Robledo as his lieutenant. . . . Should they be able to attract any considerable following—especially in the army—Spain may at any moment find herself on the brink both of a war with the United States and of a revolution—or rather a series of revolutions."—*Translations made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

## TURKEY AND GREECE.

THE treaty of peace between Turkey and Greece has at last been signed, and it is expected that the Greek Chamber will ratify it without further ado. The event has not been noticed very much in the European press, which are occupied with matters of more immediate interest, and tired of these endless Eastern negotiations. Moreover, the evacuation of Thessaly is still a long way off. *The Times*, London, says, in effect:

A consular convention has still to be concluded between the two powers, and measures have to be taken to insure the payment of the debt incurred by Greece, while at the same time the rights of Greece's older creditors must be safeguarded. And this is not an easy task. We are certain that the forming of an international committee for the control of Greek finances is not enough. Greece's attitude has been such that she has lost the confidence of European capitalists, and she will not find the necessary money unless the powers are willing to guarantee its repayment.

*The St. James's Gazette* says:

"The whole business has lasted seven months, which seems quite time enough to arrange a treaty between governments of whom one was utterly beaten; but the faculty of the Oriental for prolonging a good haggle is nearly boundless—particularly when the side which will in the long run have to pay knows that onlookers are standing by to protect it from a renewed whacking. It is the third parties—to wit, the ambassadors of the powers—who have most occasion to rejoice. When they went to 'present their congratulations to Tewfik Pasha,' they must have felt that it was a case of one for the Turkish foreign minister and two for themselves. . . . . .

"Yet, alter all, it is only a holiday, which the ambassadors will enjoy—not a release for ever and ever from the Greco-Turkish question. Nothing has been done, so far, except the signing of the bill at six months. What has to be transacted now is the dull practical business of finding money to meet the promise to pay when it falls due. Besides, there are some details touching navigation and commerce still to be settled. These will probably be managed; but the raising of the wind is another story. The Greeks are known to be expert in the best devices for performing this magic operation, but to do it this time will tax their skill. They are bankrupt, they are very anarchical, and their Government is the sport of politicians who for fluency of showy, meaningless gabble, want of scruple, intensity of selfishness, impudence of face, and absence of patriotism, are without superiors in the world, and have hardly a second outside the Central American republics."

The *Journal des Débats* hopes the Greeks will not persist in further obstruction, as they can not possibly hope to obtain money

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unless they are willing to accept the advantageous terms arranged for them. The *Kölnische Zeitung*, Cologne, says:

"The treaty is in accordance with the terms suggested by the powers, and if we needs must hold to the doctrine that Greece must retain the territory she possessed before the war—with the exception of a few strategic points—then the treaty is fairly just. Greece has come off cheaply enough considering the magnitude of the adventure into which she has been led by unprincipled ministers and demagogs. But the ambassadors at Constantinople have only half finished their work. The specter of the Cretan question still remains."

The *Independance Belge*, Brussels, fears that the Eastern question is likely to be reopened at any moment unless Crete is pacified, and urges the powers to insist upon the speedy appointment of a governor acceptable to all parties. As a matter of fact the fighting has been resumed in Crete. The Christians do not seem to be the only aggressors now, tho, for the Moslems have managed to obtain arms in some way, and are turning the tables upon them.—*Translations made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

## FOREIGN COMMENTS ON THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

THE President's message has not produced as favorable an effect abroad as the cabled comments would indicate. The English papers are inclined to think that he is beating about the bush and talks a great deal about Cuba in order to divert attention from more important internal matters. The tone of the President's remarks regarding Spanish affairs is looked upon as one of half censure, half patronizing encouragement. The Spaniards themselves are not at all satisfied with it. On the whole, the European press conclude, the President devotes too much attention to matters which do not directly concern the United States. *The St. James's Gazette*, London, thinks the currency problem remains the most important for our Administration to solve:

"During the Bryan campaign the McKinleyites gave their opponents the ironical motto of 'In God we trust—for the other forty-seven cents.' That expresses the difficulty of the Treasury in meeting the greenback question. Gold is naturally withdrawn from the vaults whenever the great bankers find it necessary. Then a bond issue is decreed, and again the bankers have the Government under their thumbs. And still the greenbacks continue in a vicious circle of inevitable attacks on national security. Mr. Gage's recommendations are not easy reading, tho some attempt to get at the root of the evil is manifest. But Mr. Gage will fail. The day is past when, like Alexander Hamilton, the Secretary of the Treasury can smite the rock of national resources with any expectation of success."

*The Home News*, London, says:

"The message describes the Cuban question as the most important problem confronting the republic, but this is little better than an attempt to divert attention from the problem which should be so designated. The message shows that the question of the hour in the United States is, as ever, the currency. The difficulties of the republic in this respect do not diminish, and President McKinley does not belong to a school of economy which affords any hope of better things. He still hopes that some arrangement of a bimetallic nature may be effected with certain European powers. Under a vicious tariff system the United States revenue is rapidly declining and the deficits become more and more alarming. When revenue and expenditure have been made to balance each other, President McKinley is prepared to do something to place the currency on a sound basis. That is a rather roundabout way of adjourning the question *sine die*."

In the main, however, the President's remarks with regard to Cuba are viewed as the most interesting, if not the most important, part of the message. The Spaniards regard the tone of the message as too patronizing, and do not place as high a valuation upon the unselfish humanity of our people as does the President. The *Correspondencia*, the official mouthpiece of the Sagasta Government, replies at length as follows:

"To talk of international morality and the high value of reforms in Cuba, when you secretly hope to oppose these reforms as much as possible, is a manifest piece of hypocrisy, especially when you promise to abstain from intervention because there is no chance to intervene. This ignoring of all principles of justice may be in keeping with the line of conduct the United States has mapped out for herself with regard to foreign relations; but it will not suit European countries, whose sensitiveness is much greater in such matters than that of the United States of North America. The same may be said with regard to the President's remarks about the Spanish authorities in Cuba—representatives of a friendly nation—and the judgment passed upon the Conservative Ministry. These remarks have been discussed in the cabinet, in the presence of Sr. Sagasta. We must not, however, forget that the message is addressed to the American chambers. Spain has many enemies there, and many others are moved by considerations not at all akin to the compassion and unselfishness which they parade."

The *Handelsblad*, Amsterdam, believes that the United States Government really means to keep the peace, and believes that the ill-feeling between Spaniards and Americans will gradually subside. The *Hamburger Nachrichten* pretty generally voices German sentiment by saying that McKinley is playing to the galleries, and by asserting that the mistaken idea which the Americans have of their own international importance will some day get us into serious trouble. The *Journal des Débats*, Paris, says:

"No doubt the President finds it necessary to bow to public opinion. Does he not have to take it into consideration in the money problem? Willy-nilly, McKinley has to count with passions which do not personally move him. And these passions are dangerous enough for Spain to busy herself with them, to disarm them as much as is compatible with her interests and her dignity. Cánovas solved the problem in one way, Sagasta tries to solve it in another. But these questions do not concern any one except Spain. We can only extend our sympathies to her, for we can not perceive any reason to say that she is not in the right."—*Translations made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

## THE GERMAN NAVAL PROGRAM.

IT is getting more and more evident that the German Emperor will get all the ships he asks for from his Parliament, and that he will not even be forced to make concessions to the Catholic Party for their vote. All the opposition parties dread an appeal to the country while the German people are in their present temper, especially as such an appeal has generally ended in a verdict for the crown and defeat for the Parliament. No European nation is more interested in this parliamentary struggle in Germany than the English, whose papers heartily sympathize with the German people over their increased expense for armaments. The majority of English papers confine themselves to remarks uncomplimentary to Emperor William, of whose sanity they express doubt, and whose speeches they regard as mere bombastic phraseology. *The Morning Advertiser*, London, translates the term *Kriegsherr*, *i.e.*, commander-in-chief, into "War Lord,"* and hopes the German people will not be caught by his ability to make use of theatrical effect. *The Morning Post* is sorry that the head of the German people "is not endowed with tact." *The Daily News* wants to know what is the use of a German Parliament if such a man is allowed to have his way. *The St. James's Gazette* pities the ministers who have to stand by and see their master disgrace himself and his country by his untimely pathos, "which is enough to make any one who has the

* "*Der Kaiser ist der oberste Kriegsherr*" ("The Emperor is Commander-in-Chief in time of war") explains in the German constitution that the Emperor assumes only in times of war command over the allied forces of the United German states.—*Editor of* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

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honor of the speaker at heart cry for very shame." This paper nevertheless fears that the Germans will give way to the Emperor's demands, and declares that the naval program "is worth the serious consideration of Englishmen." It continues:

"It will do something else besides making of Germany a naval power of the very first rank. The new ships will be built in German shipyards by German mechanics; and the result will be to give a great impetus to that German shipbuilding industry which is growing steadily and rather faster than suits our own builders on the Clyde and the Tyne, hampered as they are by high wages and obstructive unions. And the ships made in Germany are not all cheap and nasty. It is stated that the new North German Lloyd liner, the *Kaiser Wilhelm der Grosse,* averaged a speed of 22.35 knots per hour during her recent homeward run. This is well ahead of the best performance of the *Lucania*, which so far has held the Atlantic record. From which it would seem that the Germans have nothing to learn from us in the building or the working of fast steamers of the largest size."

*The Spectator* also is sorry that fate has not permitted the Germans to be led by a more sensible person than the Emperor, and addresses a friendly warning to them in the following words:

"If the German dream of a mighty world power is really a widely held national ideal, and if the German people are prepared to make sacrifices for the attainment of such an ideal, which would be as heroic as they would be insane, they will support proposals even more far-reaching than these. But this dream can not, of course, be realized without a tremendous collision with other powers—a collision in which the German Empire would run the risk of being smashed and pulverized. . . . Germany must be content with expansion through other territorial powers, or she must, if possessed by this idea of a world-empire, run the risk of annihilation. . . . . .

"If there is to be a race of economic ruin, Germany will arrive at the goal long before we do, and on her head will be the main disaster. We write in the conditional mood, for it remains to be seen whether the Kaiser's megalomania is shared by a majority of the German people. There is much good sense and a vigorous logical judgment in Germany, to which one may confidently appeal."

*The Weekly Scotsman*, Edinburgh, is displeased because the French and German naval programs "derange our calculations of what is requisite for upholding our supremacy at sea," but is confident that England can provide a navy large enough to meet all comers, and regards the whole matter as a question of the longest purse only. *The Daily Mail*, London, thinks the unjustifiable and unprecedented aggression of Germany will estrange her friends from her. The paper says:

"The Kaiser is plainly over-modest when he says 'it is not our object to vie with maritime powers of the first rank.' If this bill be passed Germany instantly becomes a maritime power of the first rank. How will this power be used? You may get some idea of the martinet methods Germany would apply to weaker powers by the demands which she has just made on China. . . . If these are to be German methods when she gets her strong navy, the world at large will hardly bless the day she gets it."

But the Germans seem to believe that they can, however late, create an empire in which their emigrants will preserve their nationality, and they pay no attention to the counsel of their cousins across the Channel. Dr. Lieber, the leader of the Catholics, declares that his party is not against "the principle of increased sea power." The *Vorwärts*, the organ of the Socialists, fears that the people are infatuated with the idea of a great German Empire, deplores that patriotism, an altogether unprogressive and anti-Socialistic sentiment, is gaining strength, and thinks its party can not afford to lose popularity by opposing altogether the increase of the navy. The Socialists, therefore, will oppose the naval program solely on technical grounds. "We do not want to order a large number of ships now," argues the paper, "because they may be antiquated in pattern before they are launched. Let the Government ask for a slight increase each year." This is also the position taken by the moderate Radicals, whose spokesman, Theodor Barth, writes in the *Nation*, Berlin, as follows:

"It will do the Government no good to force this program upon the Reichstag. It is much better to leave the question open for debate each year. Let the Government be satisfied with a beginning of a new navy, and appeal to the country for the rest during the next elections. . . . It is quite possible that the Government would get its way if the Reichstag is dismissed now and a new election is ordered immediately, and that the representatives of the people will suffer a signal defeat. But such measures are not good for the empire at large. We have enough division in our political organism already, and if this naval program is obtained by such violent means, there will be still more. Agrarian demagogs and Socialists may profit; the empire as a whole certainly not."

The *Correspondenz*, Berlin, voices the opinion of most supporters of the naval bill by its assertion that the whole increase of the fleet—which is acknowledged to be fairly moderate—must be granted now. The paper expresses itself to the following effect:

The Government has shown that the fleet can be built without increase of taxation. The principal objection to the naval program is therefore overcome. The want of ships is pressing, immediate, and should be remedied at once. Whoever really wishes to see Germany strong at sea must also be willing to guaranty that the navy will remain strong in future. Germany absolutely needs a navy unless she is willing to sink into insignificance, and such a navy can not be allowed to lead a hand-to-mouth existence. This is no party question, nor a question of constitutional rights, but one of national defense and economic development. It is, therefore, to be expected that the representatives of the people will for once forget their individual party interests and think of the welfare of the entire nation. The Government does not intend to assault the rights and privileges of Parliament, but the Government must at all cost guard the interests of the empire.

The French press does not think France is menaced by an increase of the German navy, as Germany has been very pacific since 1870. Nor does the Russian press seem to be alarmed. The German papers in Austria delight in a possible increase of German prestige. We have also discovered an Irish paper which sympathizes with the Emperor. Hugh O'Donnell, the Prohibitionist, Catholic, Nationalist, and, above all, fiercely anti-English reviewer of foreign events for *United Ireland*, Dublin, asks "What about the 'Mad Emperor' now?" and continues:

"I beg to present the expression of my respectful condolence to all those Dublin retailers of English opinion who have disgraced the patriotism of the Irish metropolis by their servile imitation of London libelers of the German Emperor. The 'Mad Emperor' is going to have his big fleet in spite of all the tender-hearted Englishman's sorrow for 'the crushing militarism which oppresses the German people,' etc. At the opening of the new century, there will be thirty German ironclads and double that number of cruiser craft flying about the ocean where Britannia used to rule the waves, and the dear old pirate does not like it at all."—*Translations made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

## FOREIGN NOTES.

*Pick-Me-Up*, London, comes to the conclusion that it is more dangerous to be innocent in the United States than to be a convicted murderer. There were, argues the paper, forty per cent. fewer legal executions in the United States last year than lynchings. Of the men lynched, a much larger proportion than one in fifty was innocent, while not one convicted murderer in fifty was executed.

THE following is related in the Indian papers as typical of the character of the Hill tribes of that country: The load of a camel had slipped off, and an English soldier, whose kit was there no doubt, was trying to refix it. The poor fellow did not show much skill at the work, and he was hot, tired, irritable. A tall Pathan of the baggage guard stood by leaning on his rifle. The Englishman asked him to help, and presently in feverish vexation struck him. The Afridi remained quiet a moment, then knocked the soldier down flat. Macleod galloped up and stopped the row, tho "only a passenger." He asked the Afridi why he had waited so long before striking back. "I was thinking, sahib," he said, "whether the soldier had a right to strike me."

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## MISCELLANEOUS.

### A WELL-AUTHENTICATED CASE OF CLAIRVOYANCE.

A MEDICAL journal called *The Medical Week* is published in Paris in the English language. In its issue of December 3 it contains an article by Dr. Grasset, professor of clinical medicine in the medical faculty of Montpellier, France. Dr. Grasset writes about a case in which a careful test was made of a clairvoyant's ability to read the contents of a letter without breaking the seal, and the result of the test was even more remarkable than he had been led to expect. He was persuaded to make the test by a colleague, Dr. Ferroul, of Narbonne, the letter telling of some remarkable results he himself had had from the clairvoyant. Dr. Grasset's experiment is described by him in the following language:

"After my return to Montpellier from Narbonne, without giving the least indication of the details of what I proposed to do to Dr. Ferroul, who remained at Narbonne with his subject, I wrote on half a sheet of letter-paper the sentences reproduced below:

Le ciel profond reflète en étoiles nos larmes;
Car nous pleurons, ce soir, de nous sentir trop vivre.

YEKOB Krishe avayn

Montpellier 28 octobre 1897

"This paper was folded with the writing inside and wrapped in a sheet of tinfoil, such as is employed around chocolate, with the edges turned up. The whole was enclosed in an ordinary mourning envelope, which was closed with gum-arabic.

"Dr. Ferroul having informed me that a string sometimes interfered with the reading, I put through the flaps of the envelope a safety-pin, which served as a kind of bolt, after having covered it with a thick layer of sealing-wax, which I sealed with my personal seal.

"The envelope thus arranged was enclosed, together with a visiting-card containing a few lines of explanation, in a large outer envelope, which I mailed to Dr. Ferroul at Narbonne on October 28.

"In the morning of the 30th, I received the following reply:

"'MY DEAR MASTER:

"'When your missile arrived this morning, my subject was not present. I opened the first cover, containing the sealed envelope and your card.

"'Being then obliged to make my morning rounds, I intended to ask my subject to come to my house at four in the afternoon, and called on her on my way to arrange the matter.

"'When she heard what I wanted, she proposed to me to read the letter immediately.

"'Your envelope with the black seal, in the large outer envelope, was lying on my desk at home, at least 300 meters distant from the house of my subject.

"'Both of us leaning on the edge of a table, I passed my hand over the eyes of my subject, after which she said to me without having even seen your letter or envelope:

"'"You have torn the envelope."

"'"Yes; but the letter to be read is inside, in another, sealed envelope."

"'"The one with the large black seal?"

"'"Yes, read that."

"'"There is silver paper around it. . . . This is what it says: '*Le ciel profond reflète en étoiles nos larmes, car nous pleurons, le soir, de nous sentir vivre.*' Then there are letters like this (she marked them with the tip of her finger, about a centimeter in height): D. E. K. . . . Then a small word which I do not know (what is the meaning of the word *small?*). . . . Then: *Montpellier, 28 octobre 1897.*"

"'This, my dear master, is the result of the experiment which I had promised you.

"'It was done in a minute and a half at the most.

"'I return your envelope with this letter.

"'Very sincerely, yours.

"'(Signed) DR. FERROUL.

"'NARBONNE, October 29, 1897.'

"My astonishment on reading this letter may be easily imagined.

"My sealed envelope came back without having been opened; it appeared to be absolutely impossible that it could have been tampered with, and yet the subject had read the contents, as if there had been neither sealing-wax, safety-pin, envelope, nor tinfoil.

"She had seen the tinfoil, altho I had not mentioned this precaution in my conversation with Dr. Ferroul; she had read the two verses, without recognizing them as verses, putting *le* soir, instead of *ce* soir, and passing over the word *trop*, but these divergences are insignificant.

"She had read the Russian characters, indicating that they were larger than the rest, and had drawn three of them to the best of her ability; she had seen the German or the Greek word (one of them only), without understanding it, and stated that it was small (the characters being small in comparison with the Russian word); lastly, she had read the date.

"The success of the experiment was complete. It appears certainly to be a case of reading through opaque bodies, giving the word *opaque* not only its original and common meaning, but also the new scientific sense which it has acquired since the discovery of the X rays.

"The reading, however, was not only done through opaque bodies, but also at a distance, seeing that the letter was read while at the house of Dr. Ferroul, at least 300 meters away from the residence of the subject.

"It must be admitted, nevertheless, that this part is less firmly established than the rest, inasmuch as the only proof of the fact is the assertion of Dr. Ferroul, of which I personally have no doubt whatever, but it lacks the force of a scientific demonstration, seeing that he requested me himself to act as if I mistrusted him, and as I should treat any ordinary juggler.

"On the other hand, no objection of this kind can be raised on the subject of the reading through opaque bodies, Dr. Ferroul's rôle in the experiment being simply that of a letter-carrier; at any rate he had no knowledge of the contents of the sealed envelope. There can therefore be no question whatever of any carelessness on his part, of unconscious communication, or even of mental suggestion or mind-reading. The contents of the sealed envelope were known to no one except myself, and I was at Montpellier, 100 kilometers from Narbonne, where the experiment was made.

"All that this experiment does, therefore, is to show the possibility of reading through opaque bodies; but of this kind of 'clairvoyance' it appears to me to furnish a scientific proof.

On November 29, Dr. Grasset laid the letter, still unopened, before the Academy of Sciences and Letters in Montpellier, and, after narrating the facts above, opened the letter in the presence of the members of the Academy. A committee was appointed to make further experiments.

## CORRESPONDENTS' CORNER.

### Emerson, Longfellow, and Kipling.

*Editor of* THE LITERARY DIGEST:—

In recent numbers of THE DIGEST mention has been made of Emerson's verses, "Brahma," and Longfellow's parody thereon, with a versified comment by John G. Saxe. This is interesting, but I wonder whether your correspondents and readers have noticed how Kipling has evidently based his address by the "American Spirit," printed in "The Seven Seas," on Emerson's poem. I quote the first verse from memory:

"If the led striker call it a strike
Or the papers call it a war,
They know not yet what I am like,
Nor what is he, my Avator."

In the opinion of one of our foremost thinkers, this work of Kipling's is unmatched as an exposition of American national tendencies.

DENVER, COLO. GEORGE EAVES.

### Measles Three Times.

*Editor of* THE LITERARY DIGEST:—

Referring to an article in Vol. XV., No. 34, of THE LITERARY DIGEST on "Immunity from Infection," I state what occurred in our family. At the birth of our youngest daughter the mother was suffering with measles. One week after birth the baby had measles. A few years after when measles were prevalent in our neighborhood she again had a clearly defined attack of the same disease, of usual severity. Several years after the same disease recurred with her, but in a mild form. Of course, never having heard of such recurrences we considered it wonderful. Your article enlightens us. E. A. B.

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## BUSINESS SITUATION.

The trade reports for the week ending December 25 show an encouraging holiday business, the retail trade being particularly active. The movement in prices is an upward one. Speculation at Chicago is the feature in the wheat market. Commercial failures remain about normal. The stock market is erratic within narrow limits; railway earnings maintain a high level; the bond market is strong, the traction and coal stocks furnishing the bullish features of the market.

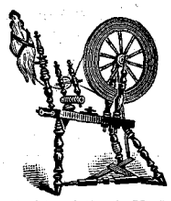
**Encouraging Heavy Holiday Trade.**—"Quietness in wholesale lines, but pronounced and notable activity in retail trade, have been the salient features in this week's trade situation. Price changes, which are numerous, are largely in an upward direction, and the year draws to a close with results as a whole fully equaling, and in many instances surpassing, early expectations. Perhaps the most notable feature has been the unanimity with which the trade reports from all parts of the country, with some few exceptions, point to a very heavy holiday trade, in nearly all cases comparing favorably with recent preceding years. Reports are that stocks of these goods have been heavily reduced. Particularly prominent in reporting a good retail trade in the West are Chicago, St. Louis, and Kansas City. At the South New Orleans reports retailers reaping a harvest and December trade larger than usual. Similarly good reports come from Nashville, Savannah, and Memphis, but collections and business would be larger were it not for the low price of cotton.

"In the Northwest colder weather has improved the demand for seasonable goods, and this combined with the usual holiday business has resulted in a good total trade, with specially good reports from Milwaukee, St. Paul, and Omaha. At the East seasonable conditions prevail, wholesale trade being quiet and holiday business active. Jewelry salesmen have sold their samples more generally this year than is usual. No improvement is noted in the cotton-goods situation, and wages reductions seem imminent. A good business has been done in boots and shoes, and shipments are far ahead of last year. Pacific-coast retail trade is active, and Klondike boomers are gathering in the cities of Washington and Oregon.

As above intimated, the price situation is a favorable one. Two decreases, one in lead and the other in Southern pig-iron, holders of which are more willing to do business at concessions, are to be noted against gains in value on the part of wheat, corn, oats, lard, coffee, molasses, cotton, and last but not least, Bessemer pig-iron and steel billets, which are in active demand in the central West. The unchanged list includes flour, pork, beef, sugar, print-cloths, copper, and wool."—*Bradstreet's, December 25.*

**Features of the Season.**—"The weekly reports show a remarkably large holiday trade, at many points the largest for five years. Moreover, at the season when wholesale business usually shrinks, the pressure of demands for immediate deliveries, which results from unprecedented distribution to consumers, keeps many establishments at work that usually begin their yearly resting-spell somewhat earlier. Instead of decreasing, the demand for products shows an unexpected increase in several important branches. Foreign trade continues satisfactory, even in comparison with the remarkable record of a year ago when exports exceeded $117,000,000 in December. At New York the movement in three weeks has been not $2,000,000, or 7 per cent. smaller, while from cotton and Pacific ports it has been larger this year. Imports at New York, over $1,900,000 less than last year, indicate an excess of exports approaching $60,000,000 for the month. Foreign exchange has broken, and gold imports begin again with $1,000,000. Government revenues increase, for the month thus far exceeding those of October or November by more than $2,000,000. Bank failures at Philadelphia, due to individual operations, cause no disturbance, and commercial failures for the month have been less than half last year's to the same date."—*Dun's Review, December 25.*

**The Wheat Situation.**—"The outgoing flood of grain is not checked by Chicago speculation, tho more corn than wheat has been moving. Wheat exports, flour included, have been 3,698,321 bushels for the week, against 3,568,805 the previous week, and 1,546,443 a year ago, and in four weeks 15,766,895 bushels against 9,039,587 last year, while corn exports for the week, 4,540,828 bushels against 1,751,740 last year, have been in four weeks 14,420,151 against 8,176,073 last year. Last year's corn

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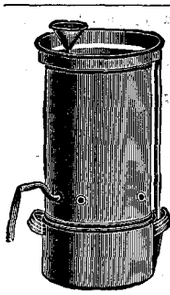

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We are glad to announce that the Kola Plant, recently discovered on the Kongo River, West Africa, has proved itself a sure cure for Asthma, as claimed at the time. We have the testimony of ministers of the gospel, doctors, business men, and farmers, all speaking of the marvelous curative power of this new discovery. Hon. L. G. Clute, of Greeley, Iowa, writes that he could not lie down night or day from Asthma, and the Kola Plant cured him at once. Rev. G. Ellsworth Stump, pastor of the Congregational church at Newell, Iowa, was cured by it of Asthma of twenty years' standing. and many others give similar testimony. To prove to you beyond doubt its wonderful curative power, the Kola Importing Company, No. 1164 Broadway, New York, will send a large case of the Kola Compound free by mail to every reader of THE LITERARY DIGEST who suffers from any form of Asthma. In return they only ask that you tell your neighbors of it when cured yourself. This is very fair, and we advise all sufferers from Asthma to send for the case. It costs you nothing.




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movement was by far the greatest ever known, and this year's wheat movement for the half year nearly ended has been close to the maximum reached in 1891. Wheat has varied little, closing three cents higher for the week, after deliveries of surprising magnitude at Chicago, and corn closes nearly a cent higher. Cotton has also been moving largely, and has risen a sixteenth."—*Dun's Review. December 25.*

Proof that the unsettled condition of the wheat situation affects the export business in that cereal is furnished by the figures of shipments this week from both coasts of the United States and Canada The total exports reported to *Bradstreet's* aggregate (flour as wheat) 4,757,559 bushels, as against 4,604,000 bushels last week and 6,266,000 bushels two weeks ago. They also compare with exports of 2,111,000 bushels in this week last year, 3,457,000 bushels in 1895, and 1,814 bushels in 1894. Indian-corn exports for the week are 4,879,011 bushels, against 4,129,878 bushels last week, 2,468,000 this week a year ago, 1,839,000 bushels in 1895."—*Bradstreet's, December 25.*

**Cotton and Wool.**—"Cotton goods have further declined in prices of bleached which meet active Southern competition, and the Fall River spinners insist upon a reduction of one-ninth in wages, other New England mills joining. Out of 101 New England works 45 have passed dividends, 14 at Fall River, with 15 others paying 1 per cent. for the last quarter. The fall in the price of cotton, when mills were holding heavy stocks of goods, placed this industry in a most embarrassing position. Woolen mills have begun buying domestic wool heavily, especially Montana and Territory, as if assured of large business for the season about to open. Contracts of unknown magnitude have been made, it is said, many at previous prices, but others at a moderate advance. Wool is more firm, traders having disposed of 3,300,000 lbs. territory and 1,500,000 other domestic at Boston, and sales at three cities reached 7,809,100 lbs.—"*Dun's Review, December 25.*

**Canadian Improvement.**—"Improved weather conditions in Canada have exercised a beneficial effect upon general distributive trade. Good roads and a cheerful outlook are reported from Montreal, and an active grain movement is reported from Toronto, with predictions of a good business for the opening months of 1898. Seasonable trade is better at Halifax, but wholesale business is not up to expectations. Snow is wanted in New Brunswick to help lumbering operations. Salmon canning promises to become a feature of Prince Edward Island trade next year. Bank clearings for the Dominion of Canada this week amount to $24,993,000, which is a decrease of 6 per cent. from that of last week, but an increase of 10.8 per cent. over the same week of 1896. There are 30 business failures reported in the Dominion this week, against 43 last week [*Dun's Review*, 33 to 44 last year].—*Bradstreet's, December 25.*


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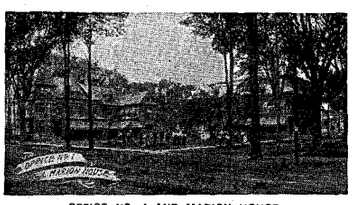


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## Current Events.

*Monday, December 20.*

Commissioners on **Bering Sea damage claims** complete their work. . . . The Supreme Court of the United States postpones the **joint traffic case** to February 21. . . . **Fall River** manufacturers and operatives confer on proposed reductions. . . . The **Travelers Insurance Company** withdraws its business from Kansas. . . . **Judge Charles Daniels,** of Buffalo, dies. . . . **Pension Commissioner** Evans testifies before a Senate investigating committee.

The **French** Chamber of Deputies passes a bill increasing the **duties on hogs** and hog products. . . . The London *Pall Mall Gazette* says that the partition of the **Chinese coast,** which is bound to come, will not be confined to Russia and Germany; that every naval power, including the United States, is concerned.

*Tuesday, December 21.*

The **Cabinet** discusses the **civil-service** law. . . . **Josiah Quincy** is reelected mayor of Boston. . . . **Fall River mill-owners** reject the propositions regarding a shut-down. . . . Miss **Leila Herbert,** second daughter of ex-Secretary of the Navy Herbert, commits suicide in Washington. . . . The **Illinois** Republican caucus indorses an **apportionment bill**. . . . Judge Lochran, United States court, St. Paul, decides that the Minnesota law requiring **oleomargarin** to be colored pink is constitutional.

It is reported that the United States steamer *Bancroft* was **fired on** when entering the port of Smyrna, on the night of December 4, contrary to


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regulations; an apology has been made by Turkey. . . . A **German-Chinese commission** on boundaries of the occupied district of Kiao-Chou is reported; the Cologne *Gazette* reiterates its statement that the **Russian occupation of Port Arthur** is a sequel to the visit of the British war-ship *Daphne* to that port. . . . At a meeting of the **Conservative party** in Havana autonomy is opposed, and a message sent **to Weyler** indorsing his policy. . . . A son of the late Dr. **Helmbold,** of New York, is arrested in London for threatening to kill Consul-General Osborne.

*Wednesday, December 22.*

The Canadian Government receives the award of arbitrators on the **claims of Bering Sea sealers** against the United States Government, amounting to $464,000. . . . The supreme court of Illinois decides that all **Chicago** officials, except for four departments, are amenable to the **civil service** law. . . . Details of the **killing** of two **American sailors in Japan** are received at the State Department. . . . A three-days' sleet storm in **Texas** causes many **cattle** to perish; frosts injure the **orange and lemon crops** in southern California. . . . The supreme court of Illinois decides that the **jury commission law** is constitutional.

**Russia** is granted permission by the Chinese Government to winter a squadron **at Port Arthur**; China accepts 120,000 rifles from Russia, and will reconstruct the forts. . . . It is suggested that **Japan and Great Britain** occupy Wei-Hai-Wei jointly. . . . **General Weyler** declares that if the Spanish Government persists in its policy of autonomy for Cuba, the island will be lost. . . . Reports from Havana show that **Colonel Ruiz,** who was sent to the insurgents and killed, carried no flag of truce.


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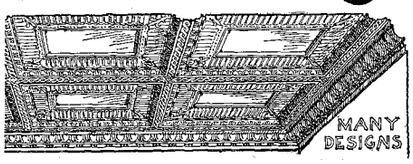


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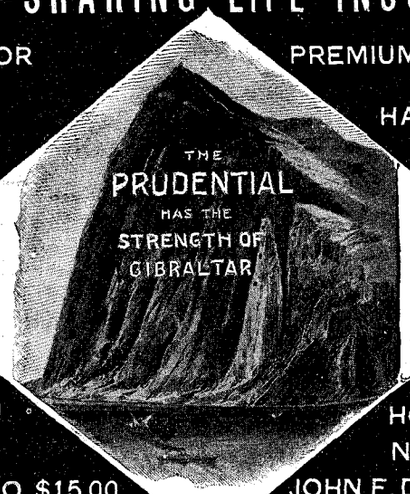


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**The Prudential Insurance Company of America.**


*Thursday, December 23.*

The **Chestnut Street National Bank,** and the Chestnut Street Trust and Savings Fund Company, **Philadelphia, close** their doors. . . . The **Illinois** house of representatives passes the Republican senatorial **apportionment bill.** . . . **A. S. Warner,** the Albany **kidnaper,** is sentenced to fifteen years' imprisonment. . . . John **Anderson** is **convicted** at Norfolk, Va., **of murdering** the cook on the schooner *Olive Pecker.* . . . The **Mutual Life** Insurance Company of New York decides to withdraw business from **Kansas.** . . . A heavy **snow-storm** prevails in northern and western New York.

It is reported that a **Portuguese force** has been **massacred** by natives in southern Africa. . . . Renewed **fighting** takes place **between Mussulmans and Christians** in Crete.

*Friday, December 24.*

The **Cabinet** discusses the protective attitude of this Government toward the proposed **partition of China.** . . . Secretary of State Sherman issues an appeal in behalf of **Cuban sufferers.** . . . The Interstate Commerce Commission orders two years extension of time within which **railroads** shall equip their cars with **safety appliances.** . . . Receivers are appointed for the **Herring-Hall-Marvin Safe and Lock Company,** in several cities, including New York. . . . Three **Chicago aldermen** are among those **indicted** as proprietors of an alleged gambling resort, by the grand jury. . . . A cold wave sweeps over New England. . . . The **Coliseum,** Chicago, where the last Democratic national convention was held, is completely **destroyed by fire.**

It is said that **England and Japan** will make a joint demonstration in **Chinese waters;** quarters for ten thousand troops are being prepared at Port Arthur. . . . **President Kruger,** in a speech, says the Transvaal must keep Delagoa Bay from Cecil Rhodes. . . . The Pope issues an encyclical on the **Manitoba school question.**

*Saturday, December 25.*

About thirty persons are injured in **Asheville,** N. C., from the **explosion** of a can of powder, while a Christmas salute is being fired. . . . Merchants of Portland, Ore., offer to equip a **Klondike relief** expedition. . . . The plant of the Standard Oil Company, San José, Cal., is burned. . . . Fifteen thousand **glass-workers in Indiana** returned to work.

**Germany refuses** the request of the United States for **lower duties** on animal products. . . . The **Turks fire** upon a Grecian gunboat in the Gulf of Ambracia.

*Sunday, December 26.*

The **British Consul** protests against the government of **Korea** being given over to Russia. . . . The **Japanese Diet** is dissolved; the premier and ministers of marine resign; the Government is said to have offered assistance to Chinese officers in drilling the army, and consented to postponing the payment of the war indemnity. . . . The **Chinese Government** intimates that a **Russian loan** may be preferred to placing Li-kin under foreign control.


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Dr. J. B. ALEXANDER, Charlotte, N. C., says: "It is not only pleasant to the taste, but ranks among the best of nerve tonics for nervous females."

## Bronchial Asthma.

### From Dr. Hunter's Lectures on the Progress of Medical Science in Lung Diseases.

Bronchial asthma is the chronic condition in which nervous asthma usually ends. As the bronchial mucous membrane becomes altered in structure by the repetition of the asthmatic attacks, it pours forth a thick and tenacious sputum which has all the characteristics of chronic bronchial disease, which may merge into any of the forms of chronic, dry, or consumptive bronchitis. In other words, we have the same varieties of asthma that we have of bronchitis.

The treatment necessary to cure nervous and bronchial asthma must be applied directly to the inflamed linings of the bronchial tubes. We must act on the air, and through the air, which the patient breathes. It must be made the carrier of healing remedies directly into the sore lungs and wounded bronchial tubes.

The cure of asthma by my medicated air treatment is rapid and permanent. The spasmodic attacks are quickly arrested by it, the inflammation of the bronchial tubes subdued, and their abrasions and ulcerations healed. Immediate relief results in all purely nervous cases, and radical cure by perseverance in almost every case of bronchial asthma. No other treatment known to medical science has ever been attended with such success, and it is not possible for me to conceive that any other is rational or can succeed.

There are hundreds of thousands of people in this country afflicted with asthmatic and bronchial disease, and threatened with consumption because of it, who can be saved from that danger and restored to health by antiseptic air treatment, who are surely doomed without it.

ROBERT HUNTER, M.D.,
117 West 45th Street.




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## CHESS.

**All communications for this Department should be addressed: "Chess Editor, LITERARY DIGEST."]**

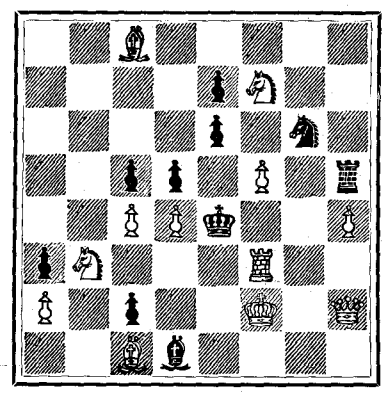
### Our New Year's Problems.

### No. 249.

"Composed for THE LITERARY DIGEST, and Dedicated to Its Brilliant Chess-Editor and His Very Clever Corps of Solvers,"

BY WALTER PULITZER, AUTHOR OF *Chess Harmonies.*

Black—Ten Pieces.



White—Twelve Pieces.

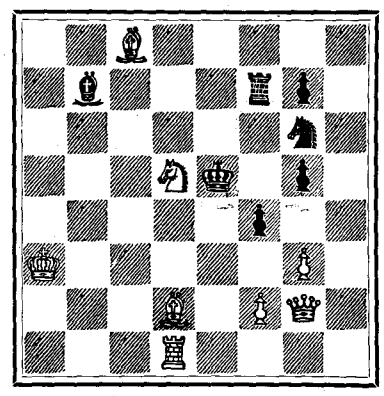
White mates in two moves.

### No. 250.

Composed for THE LITERARY DIGEST, and Dedicated to A. H. Robbins, St. Louis,

BY DR. W. R. I. DALTON, NEW YORK CITY.

Black—Seven Pieces.



White—Eight Pieces.

White mates in three moves.

### Solution of Problems.

No. 243.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1. Q—R 6 / K x Kt | | 2. Q—Kt 7, mate |
| 1. ..... / B x Kt | | 2. Q—K 2, mate |
| 1. ..... / B—B 5 | | 2. Q x B, mate |
| 1. ..... / B—Kt 6 | | 2. Kt x Q B P, mate |
| 1. ..... / Kt (Kt 2) moves | | 2. Q—K 6, mate |
| 1. ..... / Kt (B 7) moves | | 2. Q—Q 3, mate |
| 1. ..... / R x Q | | 2. Kt x Q B P, mate |
| 1. ..... / R—Kt 6 | | 2. Q—B 4, mate |

Correct solution received from M. W. H., University of Virginia; the Rev. I. W. Bieber, Bethlehem, Pa.; C. F. Putney, Independence, Iowa; F. H. Johnston, Elizabeth City, N. C.; F. S. Ferguson, Birmingham, Ala.; H. W. Barry, Boston; the Rev. H. Rembe, Desboro, Ont.; G. Patterson, Winnipeg, Ont.; "Ramus," Carbondale, Pa.; C. Q. De France, Lincoln, Neb.; J. M. Greer, Memphis; Mrs. S. H. Wright, Tate, Ga.

Very many of our solvers were caught by the two traps Herr Karstedt had set for the unwary. The first is Kt x K P. This won't do, because B—B 2 ch. The other is P x P. It is strange that one of our solvers found the reply to it, but, nothing daunted, worked out, to his satisfaction, a mate next move. Here is his solution (?):

1. P x P / B—B 5 — 2. Q x B, mate

Oh, no! When you took the Pawn from Kt 2, the Black King quietly goes to B 6.

No. 244.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1. R—Kt 2 / Q x Q | 2. R—Kt 4 ch / P x R must | 3. R x B, mate |
| 1. ..... / Q x B | 2. Q x R ch / K x Q | 3. R—Kt 4, mate |
| | 2. ..... / P x Q | 3. R x B, mate |
| 1. ..... / B—K 4 | 2. R—K B 6 / Any | 3. R—Kt 4, mate |
| 1. ..... / Either Kt x Kt | 2. R—Kt 4 ch / P x R | 3. R x B, mate |
| | 2. ..... / K—K 4 | 3. Kt—B 3, mate |

Other variations depend on those given above.

Correct solution received from M. W. H., the Rev. I. W. Bieber, C. F. Putney, F. S. Ferguson, H. W. Barry, J. M. Greer, Mrs. S. H. Wright, F. H. Johnston; W. G. Donnan, Independence, Iowa; J. G. O'Callaghan, Low Moor, Va.; J. C. Eppers, Canal Dover, Ohio.

Comments: "A fine, intricate problem"—M. W. H. "A splendid capstone by the captain of 400"—I. W. B. "As near my idea of a perfect problem as anything I ever saw"—C. F. P. "Superb! charming! not a flaw in it"—F. S. F. "It is by far the best the Doctor has given us"—F. H. J. "A fine study in Chess"—W. G. D.

The reason that so few persons got this problem is that Dr. Dalton left a great big hole at R 3 into which the large majority of our solvers fell. R—R 3 is answered by Kt (R 4) x Kt.

W. R. Coumbe, Lakeland, Fla., and C. A. F., Omro, Wis., were successful with 241. J. C. Eppers, F. C. Jordan, Marietta, Ohio, and C. E. Holbrook, Watertown, N. Y., got 242.

### The Correspondence Tourney.

THIRTY-FIRST GAME.

Ruy Lopez.

| J. B. TROWBRIDGE, Hayward, Wis. *White.* | F. B. OSGOOD, North Conway, N. H. *Black.* | J. B. TROWBRIDGE. *White.* | F. B. OSGOOD. *Black.* |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 P—K 4 | P—K 4 | 12 Q x Kt | Castles (c) |
| 2 Kt-K B 3 | Kt—Q B 3 | 13 Q—K 4 | R—K sq |
| 3 B—Kt 5 | Kt—B 3 | 14 B—Kt 5 | B—K 3 |
| 4 Castles | Kt x P | 15 B x B | Q x B |
| 5 P—Q 4 | Kt—Q 3 | 16 Q x B P | P—Q 4 (d) |
| 6 B x Kt | Kt P x B | 17 Kt—B 3 | Q—Kt 4 |
| 7 P x P | Kt—B 4 (a) | 18 Q—R 6 | B—R 6 |
| 8 R—K sq | B—K 2 | 19 Q—B sq | P—B 4 (e) |
| 9 Q—Q 3 | P—Q 4 | 20 P—B 4 | Q—Kt 5 (f) |
| 10 P x P *e.p.* | P x P (b) | 21 Kt x P | R—K 5 |
| 11 Kt—Q 4 | Kt x Kt | 22 K—R sq | Resigns. |

*Notes by One of the Judges.*

(a) The Kt is badly placed at B 4. It accomplishes nothing, and is, in fact, out of play for several moves. The better play is Kt—Kt 2.

(b) Black is already in trouble. If the Kt were posted at Kt 2 he could come out with an equal game.

(c) Things look a little dangerous, so Black runs to cover, but he loses a P in doing so. It strikes us that B—K 3 would neutralize the attack and save the P.

(d) An attempt to cut off the Q, but it doesn't work. Takes too many chances. The move is good enough, if there is none better, but it looks to us like a sort of a cart-before-the-horse move. R—Q sq should go first.

(e) The giving up of Q P is of the nature of suicide. That P is not only of value as a piece, but, if it can be maintained, it holds a strong defensive position.

(f) After this, further comment unnecessary. He loses a piece, and, very sensibly, resigns.

THIRTY-SECOND GAME.

| H. KETCHAM, Vergennes, Vt. *White.* | J. M. LEVY, Baltimore. *Black.* | H. KETCHAM. *White.* | J. M. LEVY. *Black.* |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 P—K 4 | P—K 4 | 11 B—Q 5 | R x P (d) |
| 2 Kt-K B 3 | Kt—Q B 3 | 12 B—Kt 3 | Kt x Kt (e) |
| 3 B—B 4 | B—B 4 | 13 Q x Kt | B—Q 5 |
| 4 Kt—B 3 | P—Q 3 (a) | 14 Castles | P—K R 3 |
| 5 P-Q 3 (b) | Kt—B 3 | 15 B x Kt | P x B |
| 6 P—K R 3 | Castles | 16 R—B sq | P—Q R 4 |
| 7 B—K Kt 5 | B—K 3 | 17 P—Q R 4 | B—B 6 |
| 8 Kt—Q 5 | B x Kt | 18 Q—B 5 | K—Kt 2 |
| 9 B x B | Kt—Q 5 | 19 Q-Kt 4 ch | Game abandoned. |
| 10 B x Kt P (c) | R—Kt sq | | |

*Notes by One of the Judges.*

(a) Kt—B 3 should have been played.

(b) Did not take advantage of Black's 4th. B—Kt 5 would resolve this into a Ruy Lopez, with White having the best of it.

(c) White jeopardizes his game for a P.

(d) And the R gets bottled up the next move.

(e) No further comments necessary. Black has a bad game.

The following table shows the standing of the players up to date:

| | *Won.* | *Lost.* | *Draws.* |
|---|---|---|---|
| Lemon | 3 | | 2 |
| Jones | 2 | | |
| Smith | 2 | | |
| Quintaña | 1 | | 1 |
| Raymond | 2 | 1 | 1 |
| Bullard | 2 | 2 | |
| Humpert | 2 | 1 | |
| Van de Grift | 1 | | |
| A. Taylor | 1 | | |
| Wiggers | 1 | | |
| Temple | 1 | | |
| Brent | 1 | | |
| Mockett | 1 | | |
| Bond | 1 | | |
| Patterson | 1 | | |
| Osgood | 1 | | |
| Hitchcock | 1 | | |
| Gordon | 1 | | |
| De Arman | | | 1 |
| Ketcham | 2 | 1 | |
| Escott | 1 | 1 | |
| Ultimo | 1 | 1 | |
| More | 1 | 1 | |
| Hald | 1 | 1 | |
| Knief | 1 | 2 | |
| Royce | | 1 | 1 |
| Hazeltine | | 1 | |
| Fannin | | 1 | |
| Younkins | | 1 | |
| Van Agnew | | 1 | |
| Butzell | | 2 | |
| Munford | | 2 | |
| A. R. Taylor | | 3 | |
| Levy | | 5 | |

### Love and Chess.

BY WALTER PULITZER.

*From The American Chess Magazine.*

I.

Come, glance o'er my shoulder with me,
As on the night silently steals,
And take in the charm of this scene,
Which the mystic fire-glow reveals.

II.

The dearest of fair, dimpled maids.
Ensconced in a chair *à l'Antique;*
A table that stands just in front;
A lover this side that can speak.

III.

Yet, now he speaks not—while his love
Doth play with the folds of her dress.
The cause of this strange state of things?
They're playing together at *Chess!*

IV.

Yes, grave is his strong, handsome face,
But she—with a rose in her hair—
Is pouting and fretting and shows
Quite a pretty, indiff'rent air!

V.

Ah! weighty the battle he fights,
Or "battles" I rather should say:
The conquest of love—which is life;
The clash of these crowns—which is play.

VI.

"You feel not much int'rest?" he asks,
While idly she moves with her Rook,
Which causes a blush, and "Perhaps,"
She sighs, as she gives him a look!

VII.

He muses—and then exclaims "Check!"
"Oh! dear," she says, "what have I done?
And then he peers into her eyes
That are love-lit, and asks: "*Have I won?*

VIII.

"My monarch is lost," murmurs she,
As sweetly she hangs her fair head;
He catches her hand—whispers low:
"Then let *me* your King be instead?"

IX.

Come, glance o'er my shoulder with me,
As on the night silently steals,
And sip of the bliss of *this* scene,
Which the mystic fire-glow reveals!

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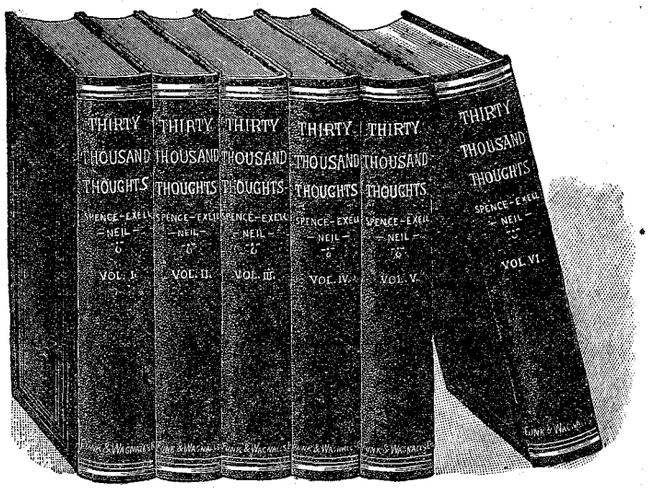


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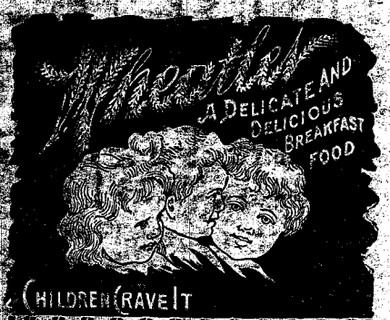


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